



THE RUTLAND HERALD

AS I HEAR IT

Duane Carleton stands poised to release his next CD, "American Boy," at the Paramount Theatre as part of a new event featuring some great local bands on Oct. 31.

Duane's music harkens back to an era where the music we listened to wasn't separated into 47 different genres, there was no need for an "alternative" label, and hip-hop was something frogs and bunnies did.

We called it "rock" and we played it loud as we drove around town looking for the older dude who would buy us some cheep beer that we could take out into the woods and down next to a bonfire.

We weren't hurtin' nobody, and we were finding our own way.

"American Boy" is another dose of everything that's great about Duane's music, including catchy lyrics, searing guitar riffs and a solid backing band — not to mention some amazing guest musicians.

His material fluctuates between reminiscing about the better days of youth and expressing frustration at the state of working-class America.

Duane's sound pays tribute to those who came before and influenced him, while remaining distinctly his own.

Having seen Duane a fair amount in recent years, some of the songs were already "old favorites" of mine, including "Take Me to Chelsea." This version kicks off with a tasteful little intro on the keys, and if you're not singing along by the end, you better get your musical soul checked out.

But don't take my word for it, check Duane out with the rest of the freaks at Freaker's Ball at the Paramount on Oct. 31 and pick up your own copy of "American Boy."