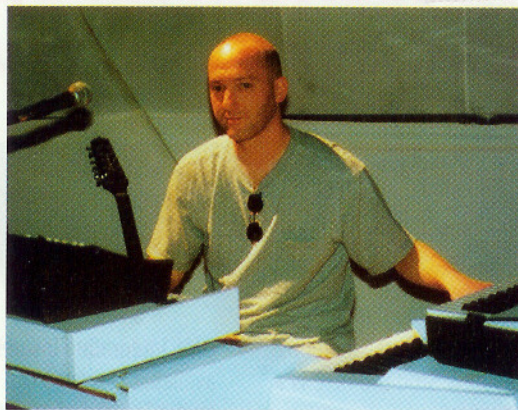


Magazine Article from the Portfolio of
Wheat Williams

“The Musical Box”. Wheat Williams.
Keyboard, October 1977, p. 18.
Interview with keyboardist David Myers
from the Genesis tribute band from
Quebec.



THE MUSICAL BOX



As we learned last Christmas, an entire generation has grown up without seeing *Star Wars* the way it was meant to be seen: on the big screen. But a small band from Montreal is attempting to bring back something slightly older and even more cosmic. They're called the Musical Box, and they're paying tribute to a pioneering band that combined multimedia and performance art with rock: Genesis, circa 1973. Revered in their home town for six years, the Musical Box has finally broken out of Quebec; their first U.S. performance packed the Variety Playhouse in Atlanta last spring.

In past years the Musical Box performed with seven members, including two keyboardists, to fill out the Genesis studio arrangements. But the band is now five, and keyboardist David Myers covers all of Tony Banks's live playing and then some, "with extremely little compromise. When you see how busy I am onstage, you'll understand," he grins.

Myers plays a Hammond L-122 with Leslie 147, an ARP Pro-Soloist, a Hohner Pianet through a distortion box, and a Takamine 12-string guitar. Though they've tried, the band can't rely on a real Mellotron, so sitting in a Mellotron-shaped case is a Roland controller that drives an Akai S2000 loaded with the InVision Interactive *Mike Pinder Mellotron* samples. Also onstage are a Rhodes MK-80, a Yamaha P-50m piano module, and a Roland U-20, SC-55 Sound Canvas, and S-330 sampler.

From the opening strains of "Watcher of the Skies" through "Dancing with the Moonlit Knight," and the complexity and powerful imagery of "Supper's Ready," Myers and company enchanted a new audience. After blazing through "The Knife" as an encore, it was off to Raleigh, Philadelphia, and New York.

Learn more about the Musical Box at www.atreide.net/cshow/index.html. —Wheat Williams