

## Paul Roberts returns to the O.C.

The former Stranglers frontman is flying solo and brings his new sound to the Detroit Bar this Sunday.

By KELLI SKYF FADROSKI  
OrangeCounty.com

It's been seven years since **Paul Roberts** has performed in Southern California. A lot has changed with his career in that time. He ended his 16-year stint with the English rock act the **Stranglers** in 2006 and has focused his efforts on his solo project, **Soulsec**.

Now, Roberts is gearing up to perform acoustic shows across the U.S. with guitarist **Andy Ellis**. He's stripped down a bunch of his songs as well as a few of his favorite Stranglers tracks. He says he's looking forward to the more intimate setting at these shows and encourages the audience to participate and ask questions. The duo makes a stop at the **Detroit Bar** in Costa Mesa on Sunday.

"I am excited actually because it's a really nice place and a fantastic opportunity," he says. "I'm really lucky and appreciative to still be doing this."

Although he's grateful for his time with the Stranglers, he's feeling more musically fulfilled by being able to do his solo work. His most recent bio states that he's played in front of as many as 100,000 people at a festival and to as few as six patrons in a bar. So, which does he prefer?

"When you're selling out thousands of tickets it's an instant easy gig because you know you're walking into an arena where everyone has just paid their money to see you and they really love you," he says. "If you're working clubs, you're putting yourself on the line which is far more exciting as an artist because you're walking into the unknown. The six people in the club need entertaining the same way that the 100,000 people in the arena do. An intimate venue could be far more threatening and mean that you have to work harder. I like that."

Roberts is inspired by artists like **Jimi Hendrix**, **David Bowie**, **Lou Reed**, **Roxy Music**, **Prince**, the **Tubes** and **Future Sound of London**. He also has a soft spot for a certain train wreck soul singer.

"I'm going to say that there's nothing on this planet that touches **Amy Winehouse**," he says. "She is a genius. That girl writes and produces melodies like no one else can. When she gets on stage and sings, she's singing jazz and she's only 25. Jesus Christ, she's been born with such a gift. It's a pity that she is like she is, but sometimes it takes that sort of person to be able to create that kind of great music."

For more information and tickets, click [here](#).



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE BAND  
Paul Roberts performs at Detroit Bar in Costa Mesa on Sunday, May 24.

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