

mobtown MUSIC GUIDE

Home CD review Crack The Sky - Ostrich

Posted on Nov 18, 2012 in CD review, review

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Crack The Sky - Ostrich

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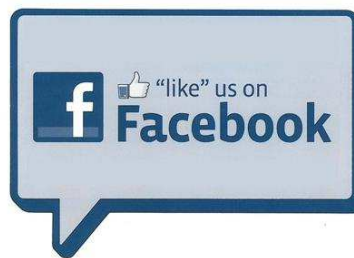
It only makes sense that the lead off CD review for Mobtown Music Guide would be of an iconic Baltimore rock band that has been packing rooms with their devoted fans for decades. Crack The Sky's newest release "Ostrich" is an updated version of their classic sound which combines heavy guitars, mantra induced lyrics, and intricate arrangements with a constant rock groove.

Crack The Sky reassures their long time fans, from the first note, that they are in good hands with new bassist Dave DeMarco. His sixteenth note bass line combined with John Palumbo's mysteriously expressive vocals set the

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stage in "The Box" for a psychedelic rock track reminiscent of Frank Zappa.

"Your House Is On Fire" is the stand out track that is drenched with classic CTS style and arrangement (think "Surf City"). This track builds from beginning to end. Every time you think they can't take it to the another level the key changes, the horns hit, or the guitar player stomps on his pedal box. The Crack Pack Horns execute some Tower Of Power inspired horn lines to perfection on this track.

If you've ever wondered what Crack The Sky would sound like playing a country song... now you know - "King of the Rodeo."

"Holding My Breath" hints at a Santana groove while highlighting John Palumbo's affinity for lyrics based on social commentary. Again, CTS demonstrates their recipe for taking a song completely over the top: one part bass groove, two parts funky hammond organ, a dash of gospel vocals, and blistering duel guitar solos.

"Ostrich" is a clear example of how a rock band that formed in the 70's can still sound current in 2012. The only question I have is why is it called Ostrich??

For more information on Crack The Sky or to purchase the CD visit: www.crackthesky.com

Crack the Sky will be performing live at The Recher Theatre on Saturday December 29th.



Musicians Featured: John Palumbo (guitar, keyboards, vocals), Rick Witkowski (guitars, ukulele, vocals) Joe D'Amico (drums, vocals), Bobby Hird (guitars, vocals), Dave DeMarco (bass, baritone guitar, vocals), Glenn Workman (keyboards, concertina, whistling, vocals), Vanessa Campagna (vocals), Barry Caudill (saxophone), Dave Makowiecki (trumpet), Jim McFalls (trombone).

review by: [Scott Paddock](#)

1 Comment



Dave Rode November 20, 2012

Another great album by Crack The Sky. A reminder that they will be playing a very intimate show at Historic Club 66 on Friday, December 28.

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