



Jesus Jones Live At The Marquee Music Video Distributors/ Secret Films www.mvdb2b.com

Jesus Jones rocks. It's a pure and simple fact, and it seems to be something that has eluded the majority of the world for more than a decade. People focus on that one shining moment of Jesus Jones' popularity when the timing just happened to be perfect for their hit song "Right Here, Right Now"... but not a lot of people really paid attention beyond that. But seriously, who ever heard "Move Mountains" that was not immediately hooked into the energy and distinct vibe that **Mike Edwards** spearheaded with the band? Even their later records that were more exercises in songwriting and production gave the world some amazing songs; "Next Big Thing" and "Chemical Number One" being just a few examples. Of course, Jesus Jones has never enedd; they've just faded into a quiet and relative obscurity. But they did get a chance to record this brutally energetic concert DVD before they went totally underground.

Highlights of the concert include the aforementioned "Move Mountains" which strips away the keyboards live and charges full-in with guitars blazing and drums thundering. "The Devil You Know" is more dynamic than it was on record, revealing the true breadth and power of that most overlooked of all Jesus Jones albums. Mike Edwards' brief interactions with the crowd, as well as with the members of the band on stage, are hilarious at times, and often telling as to why the band had such unique chemistry. "Bring It On Down" is fast and furious here, all energy and sharp guitar licks. "Right Here, Right Now" is included, and it is a good performance, but seems a bit shy of the energy and urgency of much of the rest of the live set... which is, I suppose, why it was such a great pop hit. "Welcome Back Victoria" is as quirky and calmly brilliant as ever, rather more so after the vehement onslaught of a blistering version of "Are You Satisfied?" and just before the fury of "Message" ... "Welcome Back Victoria" is a bit of a respite among the otherwise edgy and hard sounds of the set. And let us not forget "Never Enough", which is here more energetic and fun than I had ever seen the band any of the times I'd gotten to see them live. All told, this is a long gig, twenty-five songs in length, with hardly a breath between songs, which covers the band's entire history... and does it very well. The sound quality is excellent and really reveals a lot of the intricacies that most bands would never be able to pull off in a live venue, much less at these volumes.

Included on the DVD are a brief, strangely uninformative biography of the band and a rather informative interview with the members of the band. The interview covers quite a bit of the history of certain songs; how they came about, how they were written, what they're about. The good part is the entire band gives answers, rather than leaving Mike Edwards to answer all the questions. And then, of course, the gig... which is in a word: perfect.

I miss this band. I miss them a lot.

-Embo Blake

http://www.hybridmagazine.com/reviews/1205/jesusjones.shtml