

Europe -- Live in Sweden: The Final Countdown Tour 1986 (MVD Visuals)

Swedish-based rockers Europe had established a following for themselves throughout their homeland by the time that their third LP *The Final Countdown* (1986) jettisoned the hair metal mavens into multi-platinum sellers and international chart-toppers. This disc commemorates the 20th anniversary of that album with a 13-song concert in Stockholm on May 26, 1986.

The show kicks off with (what else) the anthemic title track "The Final Countdown" before blazing through other key LP sides such as "Rock The Night," "Ninja," "Cherokee," "Time Has Come," and "On The Loose." One specific standout is their noteperfect reading of the power ballad "Carrie". The audio is offered in Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo or a beefy 5.1 mix that puts the listener up on stage right beside the boys. The visuals are similarly worth noting as even after two decades the image has retained a remarkable crispness and is presented in a widescreen format.

Augmenting the live performances are a handful of extras, including newly-filmed interviews with band members and a mini-documentary following the combo as they revisit Powerplay Studios -- the scene of the crime, so to speak, where *The Final Countdown* was created. The slide gallery is packed with never-before-published pix and is sonically supported by the sole unreleased outtake from *The Final Countdown* sessions, an instrumental titled "Where Men Won't Dare."

http://www.musictap.net/AsTheDiscSpins/2007/AsTheDiscSpinsVol4No05020207.html# Europe