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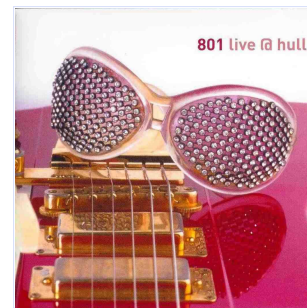
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801: Live @ Hull

Taken from their 1977 concert tour, *Live @ Hull*, makes a nice companion in the 801 live concert series. Although similar song wise to the *Manchester* CD there are a few notable exceptions namely the absence of Lol Crème, Kevin Godley and Eddie Jobson and the addition of Eddie Jobson. I found this to be a slightly grittier performance, maybe not quite as polished as on the *Manchester* CD and I do miss Andy Mackay's saxophone. Still, this is another very good CD and still sounds good to these ears. The band demonstrates plenty of energy through these fourteen songs probably making some of the punk bands at the time green with envy.



Starting with "Lagrima", a short instrumental featuring guitar feedback ala Jimi Hendrix, you just know this was a special night of live music. Next is a haunting version of "T.N.K. (Tomorrow Never Knows)" taking The Beatles classic to new heights again (see my review of *Manchester*).

The album's longest song, at over eleven minutes, is the guitar infested "City Of Light" with its stabbing lead guitar, sinuous bass lines and pounding drums creating one of the concerts more progressive moments. Manzanera really shows his experimental side on this one and MacCormick's bass playing is top notch.

Another highlight is the instrumental "Initial Speed" with more great bass and the keyboards of Skinner adding subtle touches throughout. The cymbal work of Thompson also stands out. The psychedelic rock of "Diamond Head" features Manzanera's intense leads and standout drumming from Thompson showing he can really pummel the skins when he wants to.

One the album's best songs is a frenetic version of the Roxy Music standout "Out Of The Blue" where all band members show their best stuff including great electric violin from Jobson. So there you have it. Although I felt the sound quality was not quite as good on this album the band more than makes up for it in pure energy and enthusiasm. Another solid 3.5 star release.

Track Listing:

1. Lagrima