

CD REVIEW: 801 Live (Collector's Edition)

August 26, 2009 by [steve fritz](#)

[Recommend \(1\)](#)

[Single page](#)

[Font Size](#)

[Post a comment](#)

[Share](#)

Popular searches: [usain bolt](#) | [ted kennedy](#) | [beatles rock band](#) | [2009 fall travel](#) | [Search more](#)

Roxy's Manzanera Reissues Legendary Concert with Brian Eno

There's serious scuttlebutt going around the music industry that Roxy Music is on a short list to enter the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Not discounting their legendary front man, Brian Ferry, two more reasons the band deserves enshrinement in Cleveland, [Ohio](#) are co-founders Phil Manzanera and Brian Eno.

Like many bands of their period, such as King Crimson and Yes, Roxy members loved to also work on solo projects. It allowed these multi-talented players to vent steam, explore new territory and then bring it back.

Probably one of the most brilliant of these spin-offs was Manzanera/Eno's band 801. Besides the two Roxy members, it included a veritable A-list of super sidemen, among them Bill MacCormack (bass), Francis Monkman (keys), Lloyd Watson (slide) and especially Simon Phillips (drums). Manzanera has apparently gotten the rights to all their live and studio work over the last three decades and will now be releasing or re-releasing all he has through his

own record label, Expression.

Quite frankly, if he had to start anywhere in the 801 library, Live is as good as it gets. Based on a concert the band did back in 1976, Manzanera proves why he's one of the true unsung [heroes](#) in the guitar world. His mastery at controlling distortion, sustain and compression makes his guitar virtually sing. If you don't believe, check out the opening track "Lagrima." Basically an unaccompanied solo, the song straddles the line between German space rock and raw edged punk.

Then the band cuts into a cover of the Beatles' "Tomorrow Never Knows," with Eno on vocals and it's all over. You have to be deaf not to be completely hooked by 801's pulsing, hypnotic and still powerful version of the Fab Four's attempt at Indian raga.

From there, the record proceeds to highlight many of the pieces Manzanera and Eno had recorded up to that time. On Eno's front, this includes such notorious pieces as "Baby's On Fire, Fat Lady of Limbourn, Sombre Lizards" and "Third Uncle." Eno's vocals are in seriously strong form for a guy who had recently suffered a collapsed lung.

[Print](#)

[Save](#)

[Post a comment](#)

[Next piece](#)

Page: [1](#) [2](#) [Next »](#)



Written by [steve fritz](#)

Writing professional with nearly 30 years experience in the entertainment field. - [Full profile](#)



Meditation and Music Writing - The Art of Letting Go

Famous ex-Roxy Music keyboard genius Brian Eno is best known for making "intuitive music" that defies conventional music standards. The way to achieve his kind of mindset isn't as difficult as it might seem.

By Joe Wallace | Published 11/11/2008

Review of Quiet Life by Japan



Mix in Roxy Music, Davd Bowie, Brian Eno and a huge sense of style and you get this great New Romantic Synthesiser classic.

By Mark Carter | Published 7/18/2008

Sepultura's *Dante XXI*: Legendary Thrash Metal Band Reclaims Greatness



The legendary Thrash Metal band Sepultura rises to the occasion, and releases one of the best metal records of 2006. Too bad it doesn't get the attention it deserves.

By Ricky Thompson | Published 9/19/2006

Ben Watkins is Juno Reactor

A child of the punk movement, Ben Watkins aka Juno Reactor has for the past two decades become as synonymous with electronic music as producer/innovator Brian Eno. LABYRINTH, his new release, is a patchwork puzzle of life, death, hope, and dreams.

By Wa Conner | Published 9/4/2008

Top Ten Songs by Devo



As a nerd, I latched on to Devo the 1st time I heard them cover the Rolling Stones. In retrospect I was pretty cool, considering that David Bowie and Brian Eno were both early fans, too. Here are 10 really great songs that you never knew you liked.

By theBarefoot | Published 9/22/2006

Comments

Type in Your Comments Below

Your name