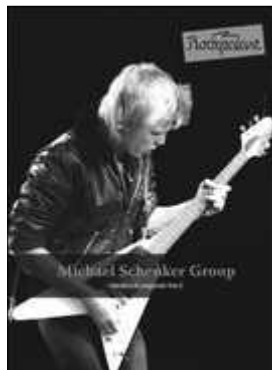



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Case Number 23558: Small Claims Court



Michael Schenker Group: Rockpalast Hard Rock Legends, Volume 2

[MVD Visual](#) // 1981 // 64 Minutes // Not Rated
Reviewed by Judge P.S. Colbert // March 24th, 2012

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All Rise...

Judge P.S. Colbert never cared much for fame and fortune. Obviously, they never cared much for him either



The Charge

*Are you high tonight?
Are you feelin' right?
Is it hard enough?
Is it loud enough?—"Armed And Ready"*

The Case

Hamburg, Germany: January 24, 1981. "Would you please welcome from Europe, The Michael Schenker Gro

From Europe? The continent?! Wait a minute...Germany is in Europe! Can you imagine Lynyrd Skynyrd playin concert hall and being introduced as "Lynyrd Skynyrd from North America" ???

From the opening announcement, to the stage lighting and wardrobe (red and black striped tights), this epis


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level of cult hero. This mad axeman should have caused millions of rock fans to ask: "Eddie Van who?"

A founding member of The Scorpions, Schenker left the multi-platinum head-banging outfit on the eve of the breakthrough. From there he joined up with the English band UFO, helping them create several adult oriente standards, while building up a steady following through incessant touring. Unfortunately, living in close quar wedge between Schenker and UFO lead singer Phil Mogg. Tensions came to a head in late 1978, resulting in departure prior to the release of UFO's seminal live album, *Strangers In The Night*, which launched the band trip to oblivion.

Michael Schenker Group: Rockpalast Hard Rock Legends, Vol. 2 is live televised performance, taped Deutschland's long-running concert program, captures the Michael Schenker Group at the peak of its powers leather bomber jacket and shock of blonde hair, Schenker looks every bit an Aryan god. He doesn't say a wc eschews the spotlight, preferring to hang back upstage left, clutching his ever-present Gibson "Flying V," thr ceaselessly throttles pure magic.

A rapturous audience, made up largely of teenage males, show their appreciation by sticking out their tongu thrusting their middle fingers forward whenever the camera turns its attention their way. The set list include

- "Armed And Ready"
- "Cry For The Nations"
- "Victim Of Illusion"
- "Natural Thing"
- "Feels Like A Good Thing"
- "Into The Arena"
- "Rock Bottom"
- "Lookin' Out From Nowhere"
- "Lost Horizons"
- "Doctor, Doctor"
- "Lights Out"

Now well past its 30th Anniversary, the Michael Schenker Group has gone through countless permutations; t constant member being its namesake. For my money, the lineup here is the group's best: bassist Chris Glen, Powell, keyboardist/guitarist/backing vocalist Paul Raymond, and lead singer Gary Barden. Barden's sturdy, € is a bit strained by the insane demands of singing over immense noise and smoke. His rapport with the audi goes beyond "Hey! You feelin' good, yeah? Alright, this next number is called..."

Behind Barden, the four instrumentalists are having a great night, which is not to say there aren't one or two kerfuffles. No medieval motifs, no jungle backdrops, and no dancing. If you're looking for such entertainmen Britney, or Cirque du Soleil. Me, I don't trust a rock concert without a few bum notes or an awkward pause numbers for an emergency tune-up.

There is one accidentally comic moment. Barden dedicates "Feels Like A Good Thing" to "all the Frauleins in the camera desperately pans the crowd, trying to find one female in a room with more sausage than a local

MVD's standard definition 1.33:1 full frame presentation looks almost good as new, though we are talking at television from thirty years ago. The 2.0 Dolby Stereo mix does a fine job of pumping out the jams. There ar but once the encore ends and the house lights come up, it's time to take the party elsewhere anyways.



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You say you're sick of today's pre-packaged, auto-tuned, soul-free music? Slip in **Michael Schenker Group: Hard Rock Legends, Vol. 2** and let yourself be transported to an alternate universe where a packed house rockers are chanting "David Lee who?"

The Verdict

Guilty as hell, in the manner of all great Rock shows!

Give us your feedback!

Did we give **Michael Schenker Group: Rockpalast Hard Rock Legends, Volume 2** a fair trial? [yes](#) / [no](#)

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