## Christian rockers Stryper release 2010 Indonesian performance on DVD

by Ruben Mosqueda on October 29, 2012



Christian rockers <u>Stryper</u> rose to fame in the mid-'80s through with a pair of hit records; 1985's critically acclaimed <u>Soldiers Under Command</u> and their platinum <u>To Hell with the Devil</u>, which earned the band regular airplay on MTV with the videos "Calling On You" and "Free." Stryper were lumped in with the era's hair bands mainly because of their image and their melodic hook-heavy songs. Unlike their contemporaries who were singing about sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll Stryper were spreading their faith through music—and people listened.

Since disbanding in 1992, Stryper has reunited on a number of occasions. Frontman Michael Sweet has released solo music and has even been a full-fledged member of the AOR band Boston. Stryper issued studio releases Reborn in 2005 and Murder by Pride in 2009. The new music was a departure from the band's previous sound—the contemporary Stryper received a lukewarm reception by fans. In a bold move, Stryper released The Covering 2011 which included covers by UFO, Scorpions, Iron Maiden, Kansas, Deep Purple and more. The album also included their new track "God," which held true to the band's traditional sound.

This brings us to the band's new DVD release <u>Live in Indonesia</u>, recorded in 2010 during the band's appearance at <u>Java Rockin' Land</u>. The set includes 14 tracks from their back



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catalog through *Murder by Pride*. Stryper are in top form during this performance. The only complaint would be Michael Sweet's persistent banter between songs, which affects the flow of the show. Unlike their *Greatest Hits Live in Puerto Rico* recorded in 2004, the set on this DVD is stronger and the mix is tighter. While the audience in the Puerto Rico show was more enthusiastic than the Indonesian crowd, they certainly came alive when the band broke into hits "Calling on You" and "Free." *Live in Indonesia* is a very good representation of what Stryper are today and will surely please casual as well as die-hard fans alike. *Live in Indonesia* is the most definitive DVD the band has released to date.

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