



HONKY

421

(Written By: Jeffrey Kurtis)

There are several acts out there today that are trying their hand at playing solid rock-n-roll music, but all too often they can't seem to find the right combination of their influences to pull from to create their own unique blend of big guitar assaults, attitude, and energy; until now! With their latest effort *421*, Honky presents a whole different ball game. As the album opens with "WFO" your ears are instantly assaulted with the shredding guitars that prepare you for what is about to unfold. As you dig forward through the album you see several different styles coming together, but Honky is smart enough to let them all stand out individually as well giving this album a very unique vibe. They focus more on a hard rock edge with songs like "Black Joe's Bitch" and "Just A Man," but also add a southern tinge to the effort when they give listeners a chance to boogie a bit with "Handful of Nails." A blues influences comes into the mix on "Woke Up Dead," while they also take a moment to slow it down some on "Over Easy," a sleazy love song that has a little bit of dirty south fused into the lyrics. For good measure the guys let their crafty musicianship shine with the instrumental title track as they bring their instrumentation to the forefront displaying incredible guitar work and rhythms that make you groove along with the song. This blending of genres and sounds in no way whatsoever should be able to pull together to make for an enjoyable listen, but somehow Honky is able to pull it off with such ease that it makes you want to hear it over and over again. The guitars stay bent towards a true rock feel but combine cohesively with hard rock and alternative influences while the lyrics keep a very easy to relate to feel to them as they tend to focus on relationships and life in general. The mostly swampy rock influenced sound laced throughout the album presents something a bit more refreshing as it is modern but often times nods to the late 70's classic rock vibe as well, while the vocals are spewed out perfectly to suit the style adding the authenticity to the vibe.