



KISS

"Monster"

Track Listing: Hell or Hallelujah, Wall of Sound, Freak, Back To The Stone Age, Shout Mercy, Long Way Down, at Your Heart Out, The Devil Is Me, All For The Love of Rock N Roll, Take Me Down Below, Last Chance

Old school KISS fans will probably bitch about this record BUT for what it's worth, the sparks are still there & the new KISS record is a mix of late 70's & early 80's style wise & "Monster" is a good record from start to finish because you have to remember, KISS is all about fluff...there's no serious topics on this record, no politics, no virtuoso playing, it's simply riff rock & that's what KISS are best at!

"Back to the Stone Age" is a simple song that reminds me of something Danko Jones did...it's easy as hell yet so heavy vibe wise that it's an instant KISS classic!

The first single "Hell or Hallelujah" has a 70's feel to it & "Long Way Down" is my personal favorite which reminds me a little of "Tempted by the Fruit of Another" ever so slightly in the chorus.

KISS "Monster" is an instant KISS classic if you listen to it with an open mind & remember that KISS records were always hit or miss after the early 70's to begin with...the last great KISS record was "Carnival of Souls" which saw the band going in a heavy 90's grunge rock direction but for the record, "Monster" is a good record from start to finish, it just takes a few listens to let it all sink in.



CIRCLE JERKS

"My Career As a Jerk" - DVD

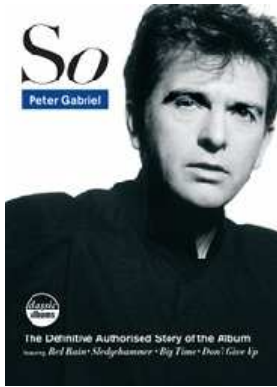
Track Listing:

This new documentary is on the band the Circle Jerks & my initial reactions to this movie are:

The quality of the film is iffy...some older video is crappy soundy & the interview with the band can linger on too long sometimes.

The sad reality of this movie is that they could have easily cut it down to just 25 mins, the story of the band is common...they started from the ashes of other bands, most original members quite & as time went on the band slowly evolved & changed from what it started as.

There's a cameo from Henry Rollins & as a whole this dvd tells the Circle Jerks story quite well BUT I will tell you that if you're not a die hard fan of the Circle Jerks you might get a little bored with this documentary because it does drag a bit in some parts.



PETER GABRIEL

"So - Classic Albums" - DVD

Track Listing:

This new documentary on the making of the "So" record by Peter Gabriel gives the viewers a track by track break down of sorts & this documentary shows how each song was written/recorded & the "So" record was a big breakthrough hit for Peter because it was his first record that spawned numerous chart topping hits including "Sledgehammer" which was a smash hit in it's day!

There's 30 minutes of extra footage included on this blue ray that was previously unreleased and it's interesting to see the new interviews with Gabriel because he's aged a fair bit since the release of "So" yet he remembers all the stories quite well & re-tells everything quite vividly!

I truly believe if Peter Gabriel didn't release the "So" record he might have faded into obscurity in the States after his split from Genesis & that's why this documentary so relevant....it explains the making of Gabriel's most important release in his career..this is the one that made him a big star!



ECHOES DE LUXE

"Hold On" EP

Track Listing: Rat Race, The Ride, Digging A Hole, Dead & Gone, Rotten Wine, Hold On

The first track on this record starts off like a Cure song, then the 2nd song picks up the pace & mixes Radiohead with an aggressive yet melancholy vibe that's equally heavy & melodic.

"Digging A Hole" has an old school vibe & is a tad bluesy feeling while "Dead & Gone" is mellow and slow.

"Rotten Wine" has an interesting vibe to it & the cymbal crashes set it off.

This EP closes on a somber note & overall this was a cool, edgy, yet mellow record that takes the listener places both intense & dramatic; the band did a great job on this EP!

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