



## **MOONEY SUZUKI – CBGB OMFUG MASTERS: LIVE JUNE 29TH, 2001 THE BOWERY**

The Mooney Suzuki is featured in the CBGB Master Series Bowery Collection, recorded live at the New York City punk venue in June of 2001. Showing once again that legendary owner and promoter Hilly Kristal was always willing and happy to bring in all forms of talent offering original material.

Formed in New York City in 1996 and now featuring Sammy James, Jr. on guitar and vocals, John Paul Ribas on bass, Graham Tyler on guitar and Will Rockwell Scott on drums, The Mooney Suzuki is a high revving engine of rock, combining influences of guitar-gritty garage rock, the 60's British Invasion and a streak of Mod-influenced Who vibe, which all comes bursting out on this electrifying ten song set.

The tracks are strong and vibrant, a few of which were being revealed for the very first time because this intimate show took place just a few months before the release of their second album *Electric Sweat*, recorded that same year.

What a treat for any Suzuki fan to get such a private showing of songs such as *It's Showtime Pt. I*<sup>2</sup>, *Oh Sweet Susanna*<sup>2</sup>, *A Little Bit Of Love*<sup>2</sup> and *I Woke Up This Morning*<sup>2</sup>, well before they were released to the rest of the rock and roll masses.

Highlights include the bluesy grit of *Susanna*<sup>2</sup>, the all-out drive of *It's Not Easy*<sup>2</sup> and *I Woke Up*<sup>2</sup>, while the dual guitar attacks of Tyler and James shine throughout, playing off each other in such a way that it makes one think they are taking a stroll right down (The Rolling Stones<sup>1</sup>) Exile on Main Street.

Great packaging, vibrant photographs and interesting liner notes round out another great CBGB/MVD release that is well worth the taking.

- Joe Milliken