

December 2008

Living Colour, "CBGB Omfug Masters: August 19, 2005 The Bowery Collection", MVD

After a 10 year hiatus this quartet had a reunion with all original members on board. At that time the band released the highly underrated "Collideoscope," the disc was an energetic combustible monster with a loud whaling guitar, the constant rattle of the percussion section, and enraged vocals. The band still dabbled in jazz riffs and put a thick groove into the jumble. That was now five years ago and they have gone back into hiding, but a live document of that gathering has now surfaced. "CBGB Omfug Masters: August 19, 2005 The Bowery20Collection" presents the band in top form. The set is heavily weighted with tracks from their debut but does include selections form all four of their proper albums. There is also the inclusion of the completely unreleased song "Terrorism" which is a psychedelic laced, funked out, electronic enhanced seven minute jam. This performance showcases the quartet in full radiant brilliant color, as if time has stood still and they are still the young brash kids straight out New York City from 20 years ago.

- Brian Chozick