

The Style Council: Live at Full House

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The Style Council was formed in 1982 by Paul Weller (guitar, vocals), Mark Talbot (keyboards) and Steve White (drums), and with the exception of 1984's "My Ever Changing Moods" (their debut US single, and strangely absent from this release), stayed well below the radar for US music buyers, although they enjoyed greater success in Europe. The Style Council featured a jazzy, soulful change from the angry young men bands more popular at the time. Since most of the tracks featured are on the Home and Abroad live CD from the previous year, it's safe to say that this performance was filmed on a stop in Hamburg for the German "Full House" television series in 1987. The lineup of musicians on this disc, fronted by Weller on guitar and lead vocals and Mark Talbot on keyboards and lead vocals on "Homebreakers," is better than competent, easily transferring the highly-polished studio sound that set Style Council to the stage. Dee C. Lee, normally on backing harmonies, steps up to the forefront on lead vocals for "Everlasting Love." There is little in the way of additional features here, just an interview between Weller and "Full House" host Alan Bangs. And unless you are fluent in German, I suggest you pick the "Subtitles English" option before viewing it. The interview is conducted in English but is overdubbed in German, so it gets a little tough to hear who is saying what. This is a solid library addition if you are a fan of Style Council, even if you're still pissed at Weller for breaking up the Jam. ~Mike Connolly