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All Wood and Doors- A Tribute to the Doors by James Lee Stanley & Cliff Eberhardt (allwoodanddoors.com)

What do Peter Tork (Monkees), Laurence Juber (Wings), Timothy B. Schmit (Eagles), John Densmore and Robby Krieger (Doors), all have in common-other than being musicians?- Give up? Well, among some other fine musicians that played on the album they all played on All Wood and Doors, the tribute album to, well, the Doors.

The album is the brainchild of James Lee Stanley (he also did a tribute to The Stones, allwoodandstones.com) and Cliff Eberhardt.

O.K. with that all said, on to the nuts 'n' bolts of the album...

All the songs are bludgeoned of their rock 'n' roll vibe, and that's not necessarily a bad thing. What's left are somewhat stripped-down, bluesy, sometimes boozy, and cool-as-hell versions. The Doors were originally inspired by the blues (what band worth its salt wasn't), as they covered Willie Dixon among other basic blues originators on their first album. The original vibe of the songs is there-it doesn't take a lot to recognize "Break on through." "Moonlight Drive" or any of the other 12 covers tunes.

The only song that they seem not to get a handle on is, "The End." They leave it until the last song, just like The Doors freshman album, but unlike the originals for boating, crazed, eight-minute-plus opus, this version (just over three minutes), is kind of flat, but hey- lemme see you try to upstage Morrison's gothic, morbid mojo!- Ain't as easy as it seems, eh?

They tackle The Doors signature song "Light My Fire" with the laid-back, somewhat manic flavor of Jose Feliciano (Yeah, dude- Jose rocks). Again, they deflate the originals rock coda, and balls-to-the-wall finale, but damn if it ain't super cool!

Spirited and inspired, All Wood and Doors is a gem!

If Jim Morrison were still with us, and the Doors were a full, functioning band (c'mon guys get it done already, kiss and make up), this may have been the type of unplugged album they may have done to turn things a round a little, and shine a light on the meat 'n' potatoes of their music.- Phil Rainone

by Phil Rainone