


[HOME](#)
[CURRENT ISSUE](#)
[NEWS](#)
[REVIEWS](#)
[CLIPS/TRAILERS](#)
[SUBSCRIBE](#)
[FORUMS](#)
[CONTACT](#)
[Home](#) [»](#) [Reviews](#) [»](#) [DVD Review](#) [»](#) [The Pat Travers Band: Live at the Diamond](#)

Tuesday, 24 May 2005

### Whats New?

Game News

[E3: Activision Lineup - Part Two](#)

Game News

[E3: Activision Lineup - Part One](#)

Music Review

[Ear Plugs: Architecture in Helsinki](#)

TV Review

[24 - "Day 4: 5:00 A.M. - 6:00 A.M."/"Day 4: 6:00 A.M. - 7:00 A.M."](#)

DVD Review

[Alone in the Dark](#)

Concert Review

[The Low Life](#)

DVD Review

[In Good Company](#)

DVD Review

[The Forgotten Films of Roscoe "Fatty" Arbuckle](#)

Comic Book Review

[Teen Titans #24](#)

Game News

[E3: Nintendo Lineup](#)

TV News

[Galactica Season 2 Plot Synopses Released](#)

Rumor Patrol

[Star Wars TV Lead Cast?](#)

Movie News

[Weekend Box Office Round-Up](#)

## The Pat Travers Band: Live at the Diamond

Contributed by Brent Simon

Monday, 23 May 2005

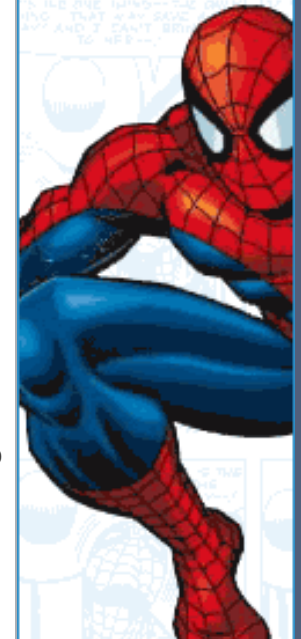
Born in Toronto just over 51 years ago, Pat Travers is of a generation who came of age watching axe slinger Jimi Hendrix light up his guitar. Indeed, that's the avowed inspiration for Travers' teenage years, where he paid his teenage dues playing clubs around Quebec in long-forgotten bands like Red Hot, Stackpad and Merge. It was during this period, though, that he was spotted by '50s rock legend Ronnie Hawkins, who — in what was surely an invite that precipitated some grade-A jaw-dropping — asked the youngster to join him on tour. In the big screen biopic, this would be the flash turning point, and so it was for Travers in real life too.

Despite the considerable difference in musical styles, Travers used the 18 months of steady touring and experience to further develop his skills. Then, still in his early 20s, Travers had the confidence to strike out on his own, moving to England and cutting a solo album for up-and-coming Polydor Records. Two more longplays and an appearance at the influential Reading festival followed before Travers returned to the States and cut the sort of hard rock solo albums (among them *Go for What You Know* and *Crash and Burn*) that would win him consistently favorable live notices and a loyal, medium-sized following. Trademarks of his early, oft-barefoot shows included giving away life-sized cardboard replicas of his black Fender Telecaster and inviting audience members up to air guitar with him onstage.

While the sort of mass appeal that he envisioned while watching Hendrix as a pubescent would largely escape him, Travers nonetheless remains a respected and significant guitarist to other figures in the music industry. After bowing out of the studio for a number of years due to the seemingly requisite industry contract disputes and general disillusionment, Travers re-entered the studio in the late 1980s with Jerry Riggs, Scott Zymowski and Mars Cowling, cutting together and self-releasing *School of Hard Knocks*.

*Live at the Diamond* features highlights from a 1990 Toronto show on the heels of his concert disc *Boom Boom's* release of that same year, with the hour-long set encompassing songs both old and new. While the source material is only of so-so quality and the disc itself not the sort to bowl over those unfamiliar or uninterested in Travers' work, hardcore hard rock fans will surely appreciate this chance to relive the live Travers experience. Songs featured include "Snortin' Whiskey" (don't try that at home), "Life In London," "Daddy Long Legs," "Born Under a Bad Sign," "Heat in the Street," "School of Hard Knocks," "Help Me," "Stevie,"

GET HOME  
DELIVERY  
OF YOUR FAVORITE  
MARVEL  
COMICS!



PLUS FREE  
SHIPPING!  
ON ALL U.S. ORDERS

Comic Book Review  
[Rann-Thanagar War #1](#)

Game Review  
[Stella Deus: The Gate of Eternia](#)

This Month In Print



Polls

Which is your favorite *Star Wars* movie?

- Episode III: Revenge of the Sith
- Episode II: Attack of the Clones
- Episode I: The Phantom Menace
- Episode VI: Return of the Jedi
- Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back
- Episode IV: A New Hope (of course!)

Featured Clip



Login Form

"Ready or Not," "Guitars From Hell," "Boom Boom (Out Go the Lights)," "Gettin' Betta" and "Whatcha Gonna Do Without Me." The disc includes no extras, save an insert listing other DVD and CD releases from Cherry Red Records. Still, for Travers fans, it's a welcome trip down memory lane. C+ (Movie) C (Disc)

**For more in-depth coverage, subscribe to *Now Playing Magazine* today.  
Only \$4.99 for a year's subscription!**

**order  
now ▶**

Username

Password

Remember me

Forgotten your password?

No account yet? Create one

Browser Prefs

Add to Favorites

Make Home Page

media kit

Media Kit

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Press Releases](#) | [Advertising Info](#)