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The Michael Schenker Group

Live in Tokyo 1997 (DVD)

Music Video Distribution

www.mvd.com

Wow. Michael Schenker. It's been a while since I've heard that name. The guitarist from the Scorpions and UFO (not to mention the Michael Schenker Group, McAuley Schenker Group and my favorite short-lived Schenker project Contraband) recorded this show in Tokyo on March 19, 1997 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of his recording career.

The sound quality on this DVD is excellent for a live recording. The drums thunder, and the leading man's axe has a biting edge. And talk about getting your money's worth, There's an astounding forty songs on this DVD. That's right, forty. Thirty from 1997 and another 10 from the Michael Schenker Group's 2000 Japan tour.

The songs span Schenker's entire career, including several tracks from UFO and The Michael Schenker Group, a handful from McAuley Schenker Group, two from Scorpions, and even Contraband's cover of Mott the Hoople's "All the Way From Memphis". Not a moment of Schenker's musical life has been overlooked.

While the video quality is good, it's not excellent. Much of the video is shot at a considerable distance from the stage, and it all appears to be shot from one camera, making some of the transitions less than smooth. In a few spots the light show on stage becomes so intense the camera can't focus, and you can't tell what's going on.

But seriously, forty songs, and with Michael Schenker you know it's high quality rock. Include some extra features, such as an in depth interview with the man himself, and this is something every Michael Schenker fan should own.

Key Tracks: "All the Way From Memphis" "In Search of the Piece of Mind"

Reviewed by: **Jim McDonald**

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