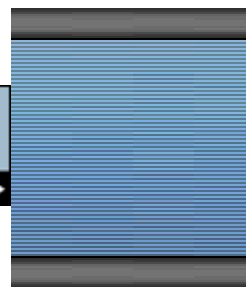




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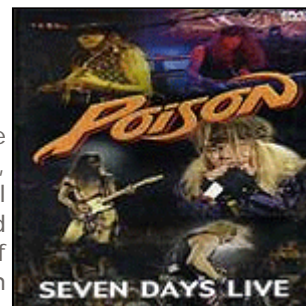
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Poison - SEVEN DAYS LIVE (MVD DVD)

Poison
SEVEN DAYS LIVE (DVD)
 Music Video Distributors



A lot of people may have been into Grunge at the time that NATIVE TONGUE came out, and a lot of people missed what I would call Poison's best album of their career. Fueled by the bitter feelings from the departure of guitarist CC DeVille, Poison regrouped with guitarist Richie Kotzen and showcased a band that once again had the hunger in their belly...if only to prove that they could be as good or better without the charismatic, but erratic DeVille. They did so, both in the studio and live. While it didn't sell like their multi-platinum past, more and more fans today find this album to be near or at the top of the Poison catalog. Now...finally... Poison proves that they were at their touring best during this time as well.

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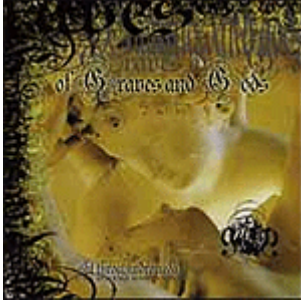
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New CD Reviews

Without question, the difference between this tour and other tours was the addition of Richie Kotzen. To say the least, Kotzen is one of those guitar elitists that can play as well as any of the virtuosos out there. On the NATIVE TONGUE tour, he proved that he could have fun while upgrading the live performance from the guitarist of Poison. In the past, and since, Poison has been plagued live by the erratic playing of DeVille, who most will admit is a below average player who puts on a helluva show. While Kotzen doesn't roll around like a lunatic throughout, you get a much fatter, full guitar tone throughout this set. Songs like "Strike Up The Band" jump out immediately as ballsy and think, while maintaining the fun aspect that has always been Poison.

As for the rest of the band, well...it's Poison. As they roll through all their biggest hits as well as select cuts from NATIVE TONGUE, they sound fired up and ready to rock. Vocalist Bret Michaels is full of energy, and a surprising amount of profanity as well. Having witnessed Poison on well over 10 occasions, I don't ever remember him dropping as many F-Bombs as he does throughout this performance. There's not much memory of him sounding as good as he does on this as well. Tracks like "Ride The Wind" and "Somethin' To Believe In" find Michaels at his live vocal best, and it's great to hear. Additionally, drummer Rikki Rockett and bassist Bobby Dall are much more solid than on other tours. Rockett, for his part, seems to be trying to pound a whole through his toms on "Scream" and "Look What The Cat Dragged In".

PITRIFF RATING – 8/10 – Even though I've seen them many times, I've never been a huge fan of this band's live performances. Since the "reunion" tours started, Poison shows have been far more about the party than the performance. Prior to this tour, it was the same thing. On this tour, captured exquisitely on DVD, it was about the tunes as well as the party. It worked on all levels. Well worth the cost if you are a Poison fan.



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Added: Tuesday, March 07, 2006

Reviewer: Chris Akin

Score:

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