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REVIEWS : VIDEOS: HAWKWIND, "OUT OF THE SHADOWS"

With Rodney Mathews cover art, 5.1 sound, a digital film master, being one of the last performances with Huw Lloyd-Langton, and having a diverse career-spanning set list... this release has a lot going on for Hawkwind fans.

First of all, this thing looks and sounds great unlike many visual records of Hawkwind in action. The background is psychedelic and the camera has a kind of fuzz over it, so it looks vintage (but still high quality), but the old men on stage make it evident this isn't the Hawkwind of old. Their performance kind of has an under-rehearsed feel to it that borders on being sloppy, but it just sort of feels right. Besides, it's not like they were the tightest band in the world, even in their heyday. The songs themselves are everything from Hawkwind classics to not-so-classics to Arthur Brown's solo material and even some Bob Calvert tunes, so it works well as a document of the band itself as well as the members themselves.

Overall, this is definitely worth picking up if you are a Hawkwind fan. Casual fans might spend their money more wisely digging up more of the albums before they fork over the dough for this though. It isn't always the most engaging performance ever, but it gets the point across well enough.

TYLER



HAWKWIND
OUT OF THE SHADOWS
 MVD ENTERTAINMENT GROUP
 2004

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