



This concert DVD of a David Brock-led version of Hawkwind is an interesting look at what Hawkwind has been up to for most of the last decade. It is filmed at the Newcastle Opera House in Newcastle, England on December 4th 2002. The line-up consists of founding member David Brock (guitar, synths, vocals), Alan Davey (bass, vocals), Hugh Lloyd Langton (guitar, vocals), Timothy Blake (keyboards, vocals), Richard Chadwick (drums), as well as recently added member Arthur Brown (of sixties hit fame “Fire”, you know that song, “Fire, I’ll teach you to learn/Fire, I’ll teach you to burn!) on lead vocals. Although Arthur’s voice sounded like it has seen better days his presence added an extra psychedelic addition to the sound, even though they didn’t do his aforementioned hit “Fire”.

The setlist covered an impressive 35 year cross section of Hawkwind’s body of work, with a concentration of the *In Search of Space* through *Doremi Fasol Latido* period of the early 70’s – the Lemmy years - made all that much more convincing with this lineup reinforced by bass player and Lemmy protégé (clone?) Alan Davey, who gave an excellent impersonation of both Lem’s vocals, stage presence, and bass riffs. Even as an impersonation, Alan Davey proved that he’s equally adept as the mighty Kilminster in giving this line-up both the hypnotic propulsion and the impenetrable space anchorage that was at the core of the Hawkwind sound during the Lemmy years.

The overall sound of the band was decent and gave the guilty pleasure of watching a Hawkwind gig a strange respectability, despite the fact that the set lacked the rawness of the Nik Turner led *Space Ritual* lineup. The one big bonus to this DVD is the extensive hour-plus Dave Brock interview. He gives many insights into the timeline of Hawkwind and even delving into each member and how they came into the Hawkwind fold over the years, the best story being Lemmy’s time with the band and the feud between Brock and Nik Turner, whom he said he hasn’t talked to since the court case (that Brock eventually won to stop Nik from touring under the Hawkwind name).

Overall this DVD is a good time capsule of a 21st Century Hawkwind and I would recommend it to anyone mildly interested in hearing what the pioneers of space rock have been up to in the last 10 years or so!

B+ -Matt Smith (with contributions from Matt Caswell)