

Elkie Brooks - Live

(DVD, Quantum Leap Group Limited / Music Video Distributors)

Some of the best vintage music footage seems to have been taped and/or filmed at Germany's Musik Laden. This concert from Elkie Brooks dates back about twenty years...and offers a glimpse of what life was like in the mid-1980s. Ms. Brooks is backed by a *big* band consisting of a guitarist, a bass player, a keyboard player, two drummers, three horn players, and three backup singers. Her vocals in this show sound something like a cross between **Janis Joplin** and **Bonnie Raitt** (more somber than the former and more intense than the latter). Starting out soft on the tune "I'm Gonna Make You Love Me," it doesn't take long for Brooks and her band to really turn up the heat. They make what they're doing look so effortless that you almost forget how much energy they're putting out for their audience. Various smiles from one band member to another make it obvious that the folks on stage were having as good a time (or better) than those in the audience. This entertaining DVD features Elkie and her band presenting ten classic tracks including "Rich Man's Woman," "Mojo Hannah," "Sophisticated Lady," and "Saved." (Rating: 4++++)



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