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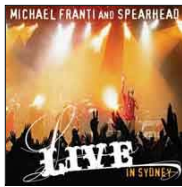
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Michael Franti & Spearhead Live in Sydney [DUALDISC]

Music & Video Distribution

Some people are destined to change the world... To subvert and pervert the course of mainstream life and hopefully open some eyes to the true atrocities that plague our apathetic planet...

Some people are destined to change the world... To subvert and pervert the course of mainstream life and hopefully open some eyes to the true atrocities that plague our apathetic planet. During his time with The Beatnigs and Disposable Heroes Of Hiphoprisy Michael Franti set out his political agenda's early on, whilst revolutionizing industrial and hip-hop music. But he lost interest in the computer manipulation of samples and beats and instead focussed on the beauty of a band playing songs that would hopefully become ingrained into the tapestry of music along with his heroes Marvin Gaye, Bob Marley and Chuck D. Spearhead to the side seemed like the mellowing of age made flesh, to the casual listener on the outside the music became far less abrasive, yet within the song the message would never be diluted, in fact it gave him room to use whole stories as the basis of songs, giving the political message a far greater personal touch.

In the beginning it seemed possible that Franti would be able to spread his wings and reach more people than his alternative credentials allowed him to before, the music was accessible yet at the same time it didn't sugar coat the message, but most of all the live show (which would include cleverly reworded covers, medleys, reworked versions of DHOH songs as well as some amazing band work-outs) would always set them out far higher than their peers. So it's a glorious delight to be treated to such a fantastic live DVD/CD combo, literally dripping with his laid back, yet intense charisma. The band as always click into gear on contact, and the songs, well they speak for themselves.

Franti of late has seemed to lost his way somewhat, his last album missing the lyrical, conceptual and musical bite that he was infamous for, surprisingly it did well and was a favourite amongst radio 2 listeners, but this, this is where he's in his element, and everyone if exposed to it, would fall in love with it... Genius

By Jeremy Chick

This release was published on 23 Jan 2006.

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