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Nick Oliveri - Death Acoustic (*Impedance Records*)

By: *Justin Donnelly*

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[7.5/10] After spending the last couple of years drifting around the globe as a roving bassist to friend's bands, former [Queens Of the Stone Age](#)/[Kyuss](#)/[Mondo Generator](#) front man Nick Oliveri is back with his first new recordings since 2006's *Dead Planet: SonicSlowMotionTrails* (an album credited under Nick Oliveri And Mondo Generator) in *Death Acoustic*.

As the name implies, this is the long talked about acoustic album Oliveri has been promising for years. And despite the stripped back reinterpretations of the [songs](#) Oliveri offers throughout *Death Acoustic*, his over the top/manic personality is well and truly intact.

Serving as an overview of the large body of work he's contributed to in the past, as well as an acknowledgment of his various influences, Oliveri opens up *Death Acoustic* with a cover of Italian hardcore/punk outfit Raw Power's "Start A Fight." Instrumentation-wise, the [song](#) is a lively effort with its flamenco influenced runs, while Oliveri's vocal presence throughout maintains a menacing punk vibe, without losing any of his legendary attitude and aggression.

Oliveri's own "Invisible Like The Sky" and his Mondo Generator effort "Unless I Can Kill" (from 2000's *Cocaine Rodeo*) are ripped through in true Oliveri-like raucous and energetic/tense [fashion](#), while the classic "I'm Gonna Leave You" (from Queens Of The Stone Age's 2002 effort *Songs For The Deaf*) and "Love Has Passed Me By" (from Kyuss' 1991 debut *Wretch*) are given runs through, with Oliveri sticking true to the song's original arrangements.

Having served as a part time member of The Dwarves since the early '90's, it's not surprising both "[Dairy Queen](#)" and "Follow Me" included on the album, while his cover of Moistboyz's "U Blow" is a riotous, anger driven effort that is every bit as rocking as it is different to the original.

One of the more surprising inclusions on the album is The Misfits' classic "Hybrid Moments." Although the song itself isn't that strange a choice, it's Oliveri's calculated melodic delivery of the song itself that really shows that he

is capable of toning things down a touch when the song requires.

Finishing up the album in an appropriate fashion is Oliveri's take on "Outlaw Scumfuc" from controversial punk rocker GG Allin. With a little reworking of the lyrics and featuring some of Allin's original vocals, Oliveri manages to make the song his own in every shape and form, which inevitably serves as a more than befitting final track.

Although a little on the short side of things (running for just on half an hour), *Death Acoustic* is an interesting visit down memory lane for Oliveri, as well as serving as a worthy tribute to his many friends and influences within that time.

www.myspace.com/nickoliveri

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