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"A sinister cabal of superior writers."

Music Review: The Kentucky Headhunters, Diablo Swing Orchestra, Nick Oliveri, and Jason Aldean - Page 2

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Just to make it really fun, the band have a back story that involves the "original" version of them from the early 16th century. Even though we think of Sweden as very tolerant these days, it wasn't back then. The original Orchestra was persecuted and was forced to flee, fearing for their lives. You see they were too popular and the authorities thought they were diabolists. Supposedly two of that band's descendants met in 2003 and decided to start up the band again. (Or are they re-incarnated?)

Anyway, if you are looking for some fun metal that your non-metalhead friends won't hate, then try this one on for size. I liked it from the first track and haven't changed my mind. Swedish big band metal, another sub-genre for us to fret about? Who knows? I just know I love it.

Nick Oliveri: *Death Acoustic*

The prospect of Oliveri of Kyuss and Queens of the Stone Age releasing an acoustic album rather intrigued me. I was rather keen to give it a listen when I got the PR about it. Alas, I have to admit to be rather disappointed and quite frankly wondering if this is a massive piss-take. To be honest, I find this release to be pretty freaking dire.

The Spanish guitar in the first track "Start a Fight" is quite nice. The rest of this CD comes across like someone really hammered trying to do acoustic covers of metal songs. It just does not work on so many levels. I can't quite understand why he released it, unless Oliveri completists begged him for this sort of thing.

If this was anyone else but Oliveri, it would be dismissed as yet another bedroom rock wannabe screaming his guts out over acoustic guitar. However, it's not, this guy has fronted some of best stoner metal bands ever. He is a creative talent of that there is no doubt. This album is just bloody awful to these ears, I guess I am just not stoned or drunk enough to get it. I think it's for fans only.

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