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Michael Schenker Group

The 30th Anniversary Concert---Live in Tokyo

Inakustik

In the blink of an eye several decades go by and all of a sudden a career approaches its sunset years. This film, shot in January of 2010, is not so much a look back over thirty years as it is a tribute to a moment in time 30 years ago; with that in mind the set list here is remarkably similar to that of *Rockpalast: Hardrock Legends Vol. 2* from 1981. Most of the songs from the first MSG album are performed as are UFO classics "Rock Bottom" and "Doctor Doctor;" the only songs that come from later days are "I Want You" and "A Night to Remember" from the 2008 *In the Midst of Beauty* album and "Dance Lady Gypsy" from Schenker and Barden's acoustic *Lady Gypsy* album. Schenker's talent has never been in question--- he was undeniably hot thirty (and more) years ago. But now he's absolutely greased lightning, a phenomenon only hinted at in his song "Attack of the Mad Axeman," performed here with wild abandon toward the end of the twenty-five song set. Schenker has said repeatedly over the years that he formed MSG so that he could do what he wanted and it's obvious that he and old pal Barden are having a ball here conjuring the past. The bulk of Schenker's fans may consider his heyday to be long gone but this show demonstrates that he's never been more on his game than right now. Also available as a 2-CD set.

- Kevin Wierzbicki