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**The Michael Schenker Group – The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert: Live In Tokyo** (2010/Inakustik /Music Video Distributors Blu-ray + DVD)

Picture: B-/C+ Sound: B Extras: C+/C Concert: B-

When it came to the later Heavy Metal groups, The Scorpions were unique and a cut above many in their time, but they had gone into decline and even seemed bored a few years ago when they released the ill-advised **Moment Of Glory** DVD which was anything but. You can read more about that DVD at this link:

<http://www.fulvuedrive-in.com/review/43/Scorpions+-+Moment+Of+Glory>

So when I saw that band member Michael Schenker (who has been in many bands besides The Scorpions) was releasing a Blu-ray and DVD of a January 2010 performance of his own band in Japan, I wondered if his edge was back too. **The Michael Schenker Group – The 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Concert: Live In Tokyo** turns out to be just that, a rocking concert without boredom, pretense and it is a pure Rock show that proves Schenker has not permanently let his wild side go into hibernation.

Songs include:

- 1) *Welcome Howl*
- 2) *Feels Like A Good Thing*
- 3) *Cry For The Nations*
- 4) *Let Sleeping Dogs Lie*
- 5) *Armed & Ready*
- 6) *Victim Of Illusion*
- 7) *Are You Ready To Rock*
- 8) *I Want You*
- 9) *A Night To Remember*
- 10) *Into The Arena*
- 11) *Lost Horizons*
- 12) *Rock My Night Away*
- 13) *On & On*
- 14) *Attack Of The Mad Axeman*
- 15) *Ride On My Way*
- 16) *Rock Bottom*
- 17) *Dance Lady Gypsy*
- 18) *Doctor, Doctor*

As one of the newest HD shoots, it is presented in a 1080p 1.78 X 1 digital High Definition image (and not 1080i) with some good image stability and color that makes it one of the best-looking such High Definition concerts we have seen since the launch of the format. There are still moments of motion blur, but they are not as bad as usual. The anamorphically enhanced DVD is also not bad, but a little softer than expected, plus the Video Black is an issue.

## MARKET PLACE



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- > **Beauty & The Beast – Diamond Edition (1991/Disney Blu-ray w/DVD)**
- > **Bloodlust – The Erotic Cinema of Tony Marsiglia (Lust for Dracula (2004)/Witches of Sappho Salon (2005)/Dr. Jekyll and Mistress Hyde (2004) Sinful (2006)/Seduction Cinema DVD Set)**
- > **The Simpsons – The Complete Thirteenth Season (2001 – 2002/Fox Blu-ray)**
- > **Secret Agent aka Danger Man (1960 – 1967/A&E DVD Set)**
- > **The Exorcist (1973 (including Extended Director's Cut)/Warner Blu-ray)**
- > **Kung-Fu Master (1984/Lionsgate DVD)**
- > **Necromentia (2009/Image Entertainment DVD)**
- > **Lesbian Vampire Lovers Collection (Vampire's Seduction (1998)/Vampire Vixens (2001)/Sexy Adventures of Van Helsing (2004)/My Vampire Lover (2001)/Seduction Cinema DVD Set)**
- > **Brothers & Sisters – The Complete Fourth Season (2009 – 2010/ABC Studios/Disney DVD)**
- > **Spartacus: Blood & Sand – The Complete First Season (2010/Starz/Anchor Bay Blu-ray)**
- > **Tintin Films Collection (1964 – 1972 Animated Feature Films/Madman Entertainment/PAL Region 4/Four DVD Import Set)**
- > **The Lost Skeleton Returns Again (2009) + Dark and Stormy Night (2008/Shout! Factory DVDs)**

The DTS-HD MA (Master Audio) 5.1 lossless mix is excellent and better than the PCM 2.0 Stereo included on the Blu-ray, as well as better than PCM 2.0 Stereo, DTS 5.1 and Dolby Digital 5.1 mixes on the DVD. However, the DTS-MA is only marginally better than the DTS on the DVD because of the range limits of the concert soundmaster recording. In combination, the Blu-ray is better as expected.

Extras include a booklet two bonus featurettes on both discs: *The L.A. Rehearsal* and *Backstage Impressions*, while the Blu-ray adds two more featurettes: *Michael About Michael* and *Gary, Simon, Wayne & Neil – in their own words*.

- Nicholas Sheffo





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