

Michael Schenker: In The Midst Of Beauty



Like a phoenix from the ashes, Michael Schenker is back.

And it is high time because hard rock fans have been missing this talented guitarist for a long time. This was the man who was the hallmark of great music from Germany in the 70s and 80s in the Scorpions, UFO and his own Michael Schenker Group.

And now he returns to his very own musical roots because the "legend" Gary Barden joins him as the first MSG singer in "In The Midst Of Beauty". Incidentally, Michael wrote all 12 songs together with him. But that is by no means all. Other well-known international musicians will accompany Michael on his long-awaited comeback. None other than Don Airey from Deep Purple is on keyboards. Neil Murray from Whitesnake strums the bass strings and Simon Phillips works the drums. On an occasion like this we can quite rightly talk about an international, star-studded line up of world class format. This combines an extraordinary feel for melody with Michael's impressive guitar playing. The whole album was produced from his old friend Sigg Schwarz and it was recorded in the "studio 2" of Romi Schickle in Neu-Ulm.

Michael Schenker recovers his former strength with In The Midst Of Beauty. The result is a fine mixture throughout the entire album and in some places is even reminiscent of Deep Purple or Rainbow in tracks such as "Nights To Remember" or "End Of The Line". And with "This Time", MSG even have a track which could get into the charts. A healthy dose of hard rock and plenty of lyrical melodies distinguish his new CD, which his old fans love and which will impress a wide range of new fans.



And this says Michael to his new album:

This title came about through my experience and realisation that - in the midst of beauty - the beast is always waiting and ready to attack. After the Tour cancellations in Summer 2007 due to disorganisation I decided to get things straightened out. After a clear vision was accomplished I moved to England and worked on reuniting the original MSG, began to write music, got together with Gary to work on Vocals and started to record in Ulm (Germany) with Sigg Schwarzwald managing this project.

With Sigg as the organizer and helping with financial matters and Romi, a well established musician and great Sound engineer, I had a strong team to achieve the goal. We contacted Simon Philips and Don Airey who were happy to work together once again and were very fortunate with Neil Murray's availability.

The Album was produced by Sigg, Romi and myself with the fantastic input from Gary, Simon, Don, Neil and Michael Voss. We would like to thank everyone who was involved and we hope that you enjoy this Album.

Michael Schenker, Jahrgang 1955, startete seine Karriere als Lead-Gitarrist der Scorpions im Alter von 16 Jahren. Von 1974 bis 1979 bereicherte seine Gitarre die Band U.F.O. Auf dem erfolgreichen Scorpions-Album "Lovedrive" (1979) ist Michael wiederum mit seiner Gitarre dabei.

Danach startete Michael Schenker seine Solo-Karriere mit einer von ihm selbst zusammengestellten Band als Michael Schenker Group, welche er 1984 vorübergehend auflöst.

Mit erneuerten Kräften ist er 1987 wieder am Start - diesmal als McAuley Schenker Group. 1994 ist Schluss mit McAuley und Michael Schenker kehrt nach einer Tour mit den Scorpions zu U.F.O. zurück, mit denen er neben der Bühne auch wieder ein Studio teilt. Parallel bringt er zwei weitere MSG-Studioalben heraus, zu denen sich zwei Liveplatten und eine Reihe an Veröffentlichungen unter eigenem Namen gesellen.

2008 kehrt Michael Schenker mit „In The Midst of Beauty“ zu seiner alten Stärke zurück, denn mit der Gary Barden ist wieder der erste MSG-Sänger vertreten. Zusammen mit ihm schrieb Michael übrigens auch sämtliche 12 Songs.

Weitere international bekannte Musiker begleiten Michael bei seinem lang ersehnten Comeback. So werden die Keyboards von niemand Geringerem als Don Airey (Deep Purple) bedient. Die dicken Saiten des Basses zupft Neil Murray (Whitesnake) und die Drums werden von 'Toto' Simon Phillips bearbeitet. Man kann also in diesem Fall mit Fug und Recht von einer internationalen Starbesetzung mit Weltklasseformat reden. Diese kombiniert außerordentliches Gefühl für Melodien mit dem druckvollen Gitarrenspiel von Michael.