

REVIEW SCALE

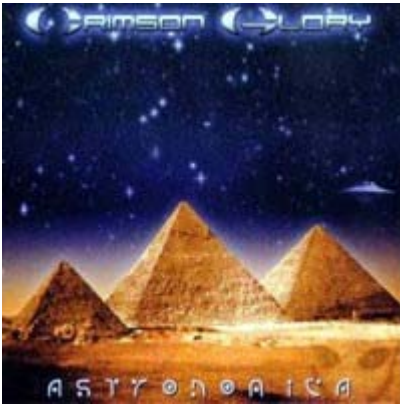
- 5 – The album is excellent, it could also be considered perfect or near perfect. There may be a few glitches or setbacks, but they are not detrimental.
- 4 – The album is very good. There aren't too many glitches or setbacks but the ones that are present keep the album from being excellent.
- 3 – The album is mediocre. While the album is alright, there isn't anything that makes it stand out above other albums. Some of it is good, and some of it needs work.
- 2 – The album is bad. Many things have gone wrong, and unless it happens to be within your personal favorite genre, chances are it's not even worth your time. The band has a lot to work on.
- 1 – The album is terrible. The album isn't worth your time, no exceptions.

Note: Be aware that in November 2004 the grading scale was revised to how it is shown above in order to maintain more consistences between our reviewers. Many of the reviews in our Archive may include ½ marks and ¼ marks and please be aware that the ratings at that time were also more open to our reviewers' interpretations of the rating scale, as opposed to this now absolute grading scale which our reviewers are responsible to follow in their rating procedures.

REVIEWS

Crimson Glory - *Astronomica* (Re-issue) - added - January 22nd, 2007

Reviewer: **Ruben Mosqueda**



3/5

Crimson Glory originally released *Astronomica* in 1999, with the new album came a new line-up which featured ex-Savatage drummer Steve Wacholz, and journeyman vocalist Wade Black. Black brought his "A" game for this album he does an outstanding job vocally. Black is more Rob Halford than Geoff Tate. Yet much like the last effort with *Midnight Strange and Beautiful*, this probably isn't what the fans were expecting as Crimson's next move. *Astronomica* leans heavily on "epic" power metal side rather than the progressive efforts that launched the band's career. This album has an ongoing theme lyrics are all about outer space there are middle-eastern guitar passages and interludes galore. The guitar duo of Jackson and Drenning are reunited on this record and they surprisingly take a low key approach relaying more on memorable well written music than all out shredding. I also found Steve Walcholz to be quite restrained and playing to make the song better rather than adding fills left and right, as we know he definitely has skills. *Astronomica* is one of those albums that gets better with each listen and this album has recently been reissued and expanded by Metal Mind Productions. In addition to the ten tracks featured in the original album, this comes with the bonus disc that was featured previously in digipak form. In addition to the three live tracks featuring Midnight on the bonus disc from before there are an additional two live tracks, two demos and an alternate take featuring Wade Black. While *Astronomica* doesn't hit the mark on each track it certainly does deserve recognition as an album by a band that had a major line-up change and still managed to knock out a

consistent solid album.

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