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ARTICLE

DVD Review: Charlie Daniels Band: Live at Rockpalast

by [Chris Delloiacono](#)
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I am lucky to have a father who grew up in the '50s and '60s which led to me being exposed to some cool music at a very young age. The legends of what's today known as "Classic Rock" have been a part of my sonic life since I was a baby. My dad continued to enjoy all sorts of music and the dawn of MTV made it all so visual. I can't forget the first time my dad brought me to the television screen to see a country/rock outfit with a mean fiddle. The Devil Went Down to Georgia is a staple of rock radio but the Charlie Daniels Band is more than their seminal hit.

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Rating: NOT RATED
Country: USA
Release Date: June 19, 2012
Distributor: Made in Germany Music
Director:
 • Ernst Hoeller
Cast:
 • Charlie Daniels
 • Tom Crain
 • Taz Di Gregorio
 • Charlie Hayward
 • Fred Edwards
 • James W. Marshall
Grade: B+

CONTESTS

CD Giveaway - Anberlin, "Cities"
 Ends Jun 28, 2012
 Take a hammerin' urban trip without all the navel-gazing.

Book Giveaway - Losing My Brotherhood: a collection of poems by Bobby Long
 Ends Jun 24, 2012
 British singer-songwriter Bobby Long uses time traveling between tour stops to craft new music and write prose. Enter our contest for your chance to win his first book of poetry!

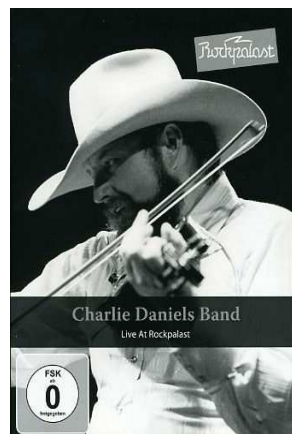
CD Giveaway - Falling Up, "Exit Lights"
 Ends Jun 20, 2012
 Experience the "experimental" in experimental rock by entering our contest for your chance to win this remix album.

If you haven't seen any of the Rockpalast shows before then you need to rectify the situation. In the days of the Cold War, before Germany was reunified, a West German network brought in huge musical acts to perform concerts on free television. I haven't seen many of these productions, since I'm from the US, but the ones I've viewed have all been pretty magical. Rockpalast ran from the mid-70s into the mid-80s, so you're talking about a powerful time for live music. Most of what I've seen has been via the On Demand function of my cable system. If you see a favorite performers name listed with "Live at Rockpalast" afterwards then watch it. They've also released a number of other DVDs beyond this Charlie Daniels Band performance, so I'd recommend just about any show you're interested in.

Home video has allowed viewers access to many epic concerts from the top bands of history. It's always entertaining to throw in a performance of one of my favorites, but there's a special something that comes when viewing a show from around the general time the songs were written. This 1980 Charlie Daniels Band performance is a completely rocking 76 minutes. There's barely a break to breathe between songs. The entire ensemble sounds excellent and they put terrific energy into every number.

If you're looking for silly dated special effects or really anything better than a well rendered stage show, this isn't the production for you. The band immediately takes the stage and fills almost every moment with music. The German-English language barrier probably prevents any time-wasting raps. The lighting, camera work, and sound are all excellent. You can't really ask for anything more in terms of presentation.

The set doesn't feature any on-disc extras other than a trailer for the show. It's disappointing when some interviews or behind the scenes material aren't included on a DVD. I did enjoy the accompanying booklet. There's not much to it, but you do get a nice two-page history of Rockpalast and the Charlie Daniels Band. There're a handful of pictures as well as a catalog of other Rockpalast shows too. Even though there aren't many extras on the disc the booklet turns out to be a decent accompaniment.



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Track Listing

- Funky Junky
- Trudy
- Jitterbug
- Legend of Wooley Swamp
- Blindman
- Reflections
- El Toreador
- No Potion For The Pain
- In America
- Long Haired Country Boy
- Uneasy Rider
- Cumberland Mountain No. 9
- Devil Went Down to Georgia

Devil Went Down to Georgia

The South's Gonna Do It Again

Orange Blossom Special
