



September 23, 2010

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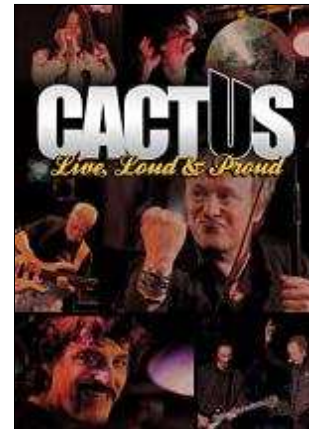
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Cactus: Live, Loud and Proud (DVD)

As rough and raw as *Live, Loud and Proud* is, there's no denying that the great 70's heavy blues/hard rock outfit known as Cactus, still deliver the goods nearly 40 after their formation. Recorded at various locations on their reunion tour of 2006-2007, this DVD (much of which was shot at New York's BB Kings Blues Club) gives you a glimpse of the band that no doubt influenced many heavy rock groups over the years. Though they might be a bit older now, original members Carmine Appice (drums), Tim Bogert (bass), and Jim McCarty (guitar), along with former Savoy Brown belter Jimmy Kunes, can still rock with the best of them. Lizards bassist Randy Pratt also contributes some harmonica on a few numbers here as well.



Much of the production techniques used on this DVD are pretty amateur by today's standards, but it's still completely watchable and shows the rejuvenated Cactus in all their power. Many of the classic Cactus tunes you've come to love over the years are played here, including "Parchment Farm", "Oleo", "Let Me Swim", "Long Tall Sally", and "Evil", plus tracks from the Cactus reunion CD *V*, like "Muscle and Soul", "The Groover", "Part of the Game", and "Cacus Music", all of which are heavy blues rockers that keep the true Cactus sound intact. If you like distorted, heavy blues drenched riffs, then you'll love what McCarty has to offer here, and also look out for spectacular bass & drum solos from Bogert and Appice. Kunes has that

70's gritty blues rock wail, and fits in with the band perfectly.

There's a boatload of special features included on the DVD, including interviews with the band members, a hilariously cheesy video of "The Groover", testimonial interviews with some heavyweight rock players from a music convention, and a sizzling jam with the band as they are joined by Warren Haynes, Joe Bonamassa, and Pat Travers. Despite the obvious budget restraints in putting this together, *Live, Loud and Proud* is a ton of fun, and proves what a vastly underrated hard rock band Cactus was and still is.

Track Listing

1. * Let Me Swim
2. * Long Tall Sally
3. * One Way Or Another
4. * Cactus Music
5. * Brother Bill
6. * Muscle and Soul
7. * Oleo / Bass solo
8. * Evil / Drum solo
9. * The Groover
10. * Part of the Game
11. * Rock and Roll Children
12. * Big Mama Boogie
13. * Parchman Farm

Bonus Materials:

- * Bonus Interviews with the Band
- * Music Video for 'The Groover'
- * Featurette: ' Testimonials About Cactus' with Vinnie Moore (UFO), Shawn Drover (Megadeth), Ty Tabor (Kings X), Uli Jon Roth (Scorpions), Chad Smith (Red Hot Chilli Peppers), and more.

Added: September 21st 2010

Reviewer: **Pete Pardo**

Score: ★★★★★

Related Link: **Band Website**

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