

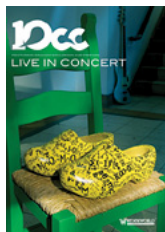
Robben Ford began in '74, after Carlton recorded with Tom Scott's L.A. Express and Joni Mitchell but was too busy with the Crusaders to do the Mitchell/Express tour. A 22-year-old blues phenom got the gig, having logged stints with Charlie Musselwhite, Jimmy Witherspoon, and the influential Charles Ford Band.

Carlton showed Ford the ropes, and Ford's dynamic playing lit a fire under Carlton. This mutual admiration society taped an acoustic set 32 years later, as part of Paris' New Morning concert series.

Neither has a radically different style than they do on electric. Carlton's Valley Arts custom LC flat-top is more trebly, while Ford gets a warmer sound from his thin-body, Tele-shaped Model-T by Toru Nittono. In the mostly instrumental set, Ford's two vocals, "Hand In Hand With The Blues" and "I Put A Spell On You," are highlights, as is Carlton's impassioned solo on the latter.

The CD and DVD have the same repertoire, but with the latter you get to *see* how they do what they do. Plus, the bonus pre-show conversation, a two-way interview,

is only 11 minutes, but it's revealing – in terms of their personalities and filling in what was an extremely heady timeline, as they jog each other's memories. Neither "Mama, Talk To Your Daughter" (sung by Ford) nor "Night Sweats" (a tad faster than Carlton's studio version) are part of the live set, but these relaxed jams, at low volume with lots of reverb, may be the treats of the DVD. – **Dan Forte**



10cc In Concert

Depending on how avid an Anglophile you are, the name Graham Gouldman might conjure up British Invasion hits he penned for the Yardbirds ("For Your Love," "Heart Full Of Soul"), the Hollies ("Look Through Any Window," "Bus Stop"), and Herman's Hermits ("No Milk Today"). Or you'll recognize him as a founding member of 10cc. In the mid '70s, the group reached the Top 10 with "I'm Not In Love" and "The Things We Do For Love" (in the

U.S.; they had numerous hits in England) and were subsequently a huge influence on folks like Squeeze.

Gouldman is the only original in the current edition of the band, although lead and slide guitarist Rick Fenn and drummer Paul Burgess go back with the group 35 years. As demonstrated on "Art For Art's Sake," 10cc can still straddle Zappa-esque intricacies and hook-filled (downright sing-songy) pop. After Gouldman trades his Jazz Bass for a Taylor for acoustic versions of some of his aforementioned compositions (the exception being a kick-ass, electric rendition of "For Your Love"), founding member Kevin Godley joins him for a beautiful duet on "Old Wild Men."

Along with first-rate audio and camera work, the DVD features interviews with Gouldman and original album designer Storm Thorgerson. – **DF VG**

