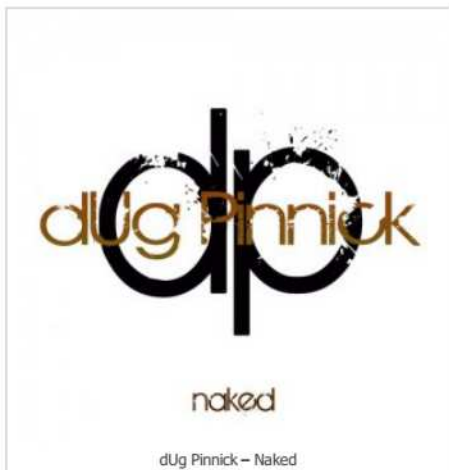




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dUg Pinnick – Naked

POSTED BY MARTIJN ON MAY - 10 - 2013



dUg Pinnick – Naked CD (dUgtone/RockArmy Records/MVD Audio)

'Naked' is dUg Pinnick's latest endeavor outside of King's X, and it would be difficult to describe it as anything less than his best. Pinnick wrote, played, recorded, produced, and mixed the album by himself at his own dUgtone Studio in Los Angeles, enlisting help only from Mark Fuller for mastering, and the assistance of one of my all-time favorite guitarists – Tracey 'Spacey T' Singleton [Sound Barrier, Fishbone, Praise The Dead] – for one guitar lead. Musically, 'Naked' is classic dUg Pinnick. Those huge, crazy, booty-shakin' bass lines that he's become synonomous with over the past three decades with King's X? 'Naked' is chock full of `em.

That classic vocal delivery, full of passion and power and more soul than a warehouse full of vintage Motown 45's? Oh yeah. It's there... and how! And the guitars? Pinnick isn't known for his guitar-playing, but he's always written songs on guitar and has played – leads and solos and everything – on all of his previous solo releases, including the two albums released under the Poundhound moniker, and here he wrangles sounds out of his preferred instrument (a Schecter 7-string) that will make even the snobbiest of guitar snobs sit up and take notice. Lyrically, 'Naked' is personal and reflective and uplifting and... well, perfect. Pinnick shatters preconceptions about life – his, mine, yours, everyone's – in a stark, revealing manner that never seems anything less than brutally honest, and he wraps these truths and revelations in such a thick and inviting blanket of hooks and grooves that it would be easy to overlook the words altogether until the third or fourth spin, when you'll find yourself unconsciously singing along with reckless abandon, a huge smile plastered on your thoroughly rocked face. I could go on and on until this review more closely resembled a doctorate thesis on rock 'n' roll than a simple record review, but that wouldn't be in keeping with the spirit of the subject matter. 'Naked' is raw. It's honest and it's real. Its songs all make their points and move on, leaving the listener changed for the better. To overthink or overanalyze them here would be as much of a crime as not letting this record into your life. Do yourself a favor: get 'Naked'. **The Impaler @impalerspeaks**

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