

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.

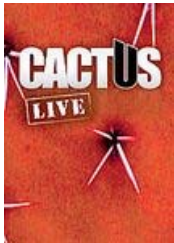
1 – The album is terrible. The album isn't worth your time, no exceptions.

Note: Be aware that in November 2004 the grading scale was revised to how it is shown above in order to maintain more consistencies 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

Cactus - Live (DVD) - added - November 25th, 2007

Reviewer: **Ruben Mosqueda**



Cactus returned to form in the summer of 2006, hot on the heels of their *V* album. The band received rave reviews for the album and also for their first performance in 30 years, which took place at B. B. King's in New York City. Sadly, Rusty Day wasn't involved in the festivities as he passed away many years ago. Joining legendary drummer Carmine Appice, bassist Tim Bogert, and guitarist Jim McCarty is Jimmy Kunes, who does justice to the classics. Cactus was often referred to as the *American Led Zeppelin*. Obviously they didn't receive that level of success, but they did go on to be one of the best kept secrets in *American rock 'n roll*. I myself liken Cactus more to a Bad Company meets Foghat. As stated, 30 years since their last performance Cactus took the stage to perform a set that consisted of the classics as well as newly recorded material from the *V* album. They received a great reception from the audience packed tightly into the small club. The performance is flawless, and Cactus sounds surprisingly good. The gig was shot in a manner that gives you the feeling that you are actually at B.B. King's. You embrace the intimate vibe. The only thing missing is the smell of the cigarette smoke and the aroma of beer and whiskey. The 90 minute performance will win you over, even if you aren't already a fan. The standout tracks on *Cactus - Live* are "Long Tall Sally," "Let Me Swim" (Carmine states in the intro that "Van Halen borrowed this from us," and it sounds eerily similar to "Eruption"), "Oleo," Howlin' Wolf's "Evil," and "Parchment Farm."

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