

MODERN DRUMMER

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ALLAN HOLDSWORTH AND ALAN PASQUA FEATURING CHAD WACKERMAN AND JIMMY HASLIP

★★★★★

DVD LEVEL: ALL **PRICE:** \$34.95

Filmed at Yoshi's jazz club in Oakland, California, in 2006, this video captures Holdsworth & company ripping through, nearly impossibly, an intense/cerebral/nostalgic/cutting-edge set, which includes classic Tony Williams Lifetime tracks such as "Red Alert," "Fred," and "Protocosmos." Williams' restless musical spirit must have been presiding over these edgy proceedings, because drummer and "time" traveler **CHAD WACKERMAN** seems truly inspired by a higher power as he ploughs through numerous shifting tempos. Wackerman's busy, driving style funks up the opening musical salvos to the aforementioned "Protocosmos" and "Looking Glass" (a song from Holdsworth's 1986 studio effort *Atavachron* that originally featured Williams). This is fusion in the best sense of the word: The music is vital and fresh, combining jazz's polyrhythmic complexity with rock's power. (Altitude Digital) **Will Romano**