

Skatalites

Live at Lokerse Feesten

(Charly)

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Every band who's ever played a ska tune owes a debt to the Skatalites, the Jamaican band that's widely given credit for inventing the genre back in the early '60s. The band's sound was mostly shaped by Don Drummond, the band's main songwriter and trombonist. Drummond was convicted of murder and later died in an asylum, and his plight led to the break-up of the original band.



The lineup has been ever evolving since and the two concerts captured here (shot five years apart at a festival in Belgium) feature two different make-ups of the band. Both shows run about an hour, and there is some overlap in the set lists; swinging instrumentals like "James Bond Theme," "Guns of Navarrone" and "El Pussycat" are performed in both shows, but the band's

first hit, Drummond's "Man in the Street" appears only in

sacrificing an g rocker stage g anthem "Born

ssive about the ma and charm, stage with her equally as skilled nts. While he usual attention, youngest member

one performance.

Doreen Shaffer, the group's longtime vocalist, appears mid-set during both shows with a nice take on "Simmer Down," Bob Marley's first single that he originally recorded with the Skatalites as backup. With extras focusing on Skatalite history and off-stage footage, this collection stretches to nearly three hours.

Grade B

—Kevin Wierzbicki