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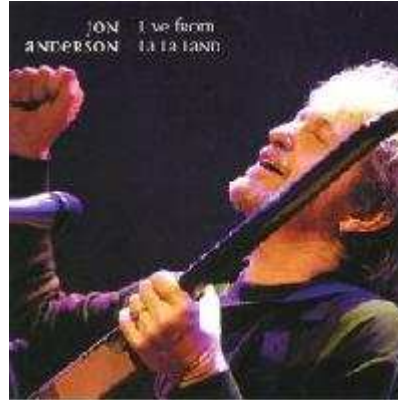
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Editorial



Jon Anderson

Live From La La Land

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The voice of Yes, Jon Anderson is a legend if there ever was one. Socially and environmentally conscious lyrically and musically progressive long before it became trendy; he is the forefather of rock and roll ethics. "Live From La La Land," previously available only at his solo gigs, was recorded at the Roxy in Los Angeles and features songs from his work with Vangelis, Yes, and his numerous solo albums all performed acoustically.

Fans of Jon Anderson will love this album purely because of the length. Comprised of Jon and his acoustic guitar, the album contains a cool twenty tracks and Anderson has rarely sounded better. While it's easy to enjoy his bootlegs while taking them for what they are (demos), "Live From La La Land" is closer to studio quality and these new reflections on classic songs will certainly make you stop and ponder their meanings even more than their originals did way back when.

Disc one opens with the Yes classic "Long Distance Runaround" and works it's way through songs like "Father Sky," "I'll Find My Way Home," and "Buddha Song." The only real stumble is the weak "Reggae Song." Anderson is amazing but he should leave reggae to others better suited for the job. The second disc fares better, although both are pretty damn good. Disc two features songs like "Show Me," "Wondrous Stories," "White Buffalo," and the quintessential Yes classics "Your Move" and "Owner of a Lonely Heart." The latter two

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are quite interesting stripped down. As a matter of fact, "Your Move" may even be a little better than its original truth be told. It's great to hear Anderson interact with the audience so intimately, it's very much in the vein of VH1 Storytellers in that respect. You simply can't go wrong with "Live From La La Land."

Bottom Line: A class act all the way, Jon Anderson is on the frontline giving the fans what they want while we wait for Yes to come off of hiatus. This is an excellent album through and through but did you really expect anything less?

Key Tracks: "I'll Find My Way Home," "Your Move"

Reviewed by: **Mark Fisher**

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