

# Gapplegate Guitar and Bass Blog

## Grego's First Blog: 1,001 Knights, Reviews of Music CDs for Guitar, Bass and Otherwise

Classical-Modern Music Review  
Gapplegate Music Review  
(Jazz)  
Grego's Yakety-Yak



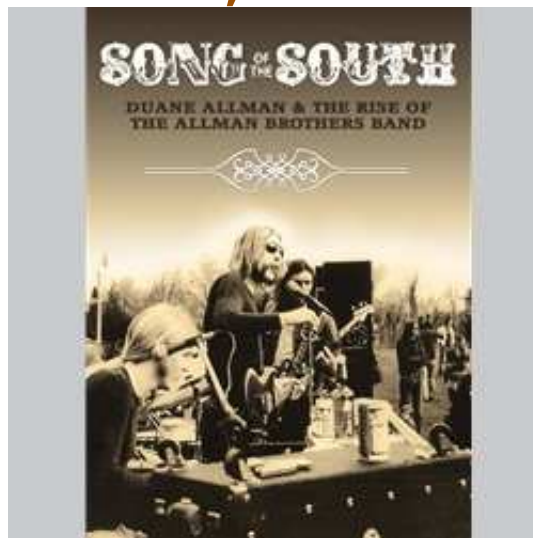
## About This Blog

Grego Applegate Edwards writes this column.

The Gapplegate Guitar and Bass Blog has grown over several years to contain more than 1,000 reviews of CDs by guitarists, bassists,

Thursday, August 15, 2013

## Song of the South, Duane Allman & the Rise of the Allman Brothers Band, DVD



Duane Allman and the Allman Brothers Band? He and they changed the face of rock. Duane's life was tragically short. The band continues on even today. You can get a good bead on Duane's musical biography and how the Allman Brothers came to be with the DVD *Song of the South, Duane Allman & the Rise of the Allman Brothers Band* (Sexy Intellectual 576).

As the title makes pretty obvious the organizing theme of the bio-video is the importance and situation of Duane and the Allmans as part of the Southern US and how they energized the rock scene there. The Florida setting for the early musical lives of Duane and Greg gets plenty of attention. The racial segregation, the beautiful southern soul music and blues music coming out of the South, Duane and Greg's fascination with the music and rejection of the politics--all certainly help situate the coming-to-be of

vocalists and otherwise. Each musician is a hero in my mind, a Knight in Shining Armor, devoting a lifetime to music that you can enjoy and treasure. Here are my 1,000 knights, and my many 1,000 nights spent listening so I could review this music for you. If you care about what you hear and want to know more about what is out there, you are the person I have in mind as I write these postings. If music isn't an important part of your life this blog is probably not for you.

Various musical genres get attention on these pages: jazz and rock with guitarists and/or bassists playing a prominent role, classical music for the guitar, world music, blues, roots, electric music, vocalists.

I cover other jazz and improvisation on the GappleGate Music Review blog (see link on this page) and modern classical and avant garde concert music on the new blogsite Classical-Modern Music Review (see link).

All material copyright 2007-13 by Grego Applegate Edwards.

## Followers

their musical consciousness and the social underpinnings implied.

The evolution of Duane and Greg's first bands from average local cover affairs to a more distinctive, harder outfit, the move to LA and the unfortunate two-album psych-pop Hourglass project, Duane's Muscle Shoals studio days and the key step--an Allman Brothers band finally giving fully fleshed impetus to the sounds Duane and Greg absorbed and gave back transformed, all is given due attention. I learned much from the DVD on the early days I did not know. And it's portrayed vividly with first-hand narrative and well paced sequences.

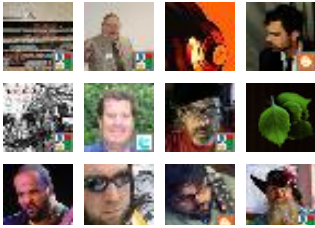
Then as expected we get a detailed account of how the Allman Brothers band started out, the unusual influences and combinations that came to bear on their music, and the initial struggle for recognition both in the South and nationwide. Of course the rest most of us know--breakthrough, the Fillmore album and success. As we know Duane bursts into guitar brilliance and the band establishes a style that wasn't quite like anything before. Then, tragedy. All is given moving and fascinating coverage, some of the best coming out of the interview footage with the Allman's road manager and engineers from some of the original sessions in Florida.

By framing it all as the story of the rise of Southern Rock, we gain much insight into the musical- and political-politics of the nation in that era, and how dramatic it was that the Allmans came to be--a band that was hip, socially-racially unbiased, helping to create and sustain a collective new Southern audience that rejected the good-old-boy, Jim Crow view of some of their forebears and contemporaries.

On the other hand there is a strictly musical aspect of the Allmans that doesn't get enough attention to my mind. That is the importance of the style of music the classic Allman band produced--at once bluesy, progressive and seminally proto-jamband-like with that so distinctive two-guitar sound and two-drummer rock thrust. There could have been a more musically informed discussion on a more specific level, though there is good general attention to Duane as a guitarist and his development. I'd like to know

Join this site  
with Google Friend Connect

### Members (22)



## Blog Archive

### ▼ 2013 (143)

#### ► September (6)

#### ▼ August (17)

Stratic, Michael Coleman,  
Aram Shelton, Alex  
Vittu...

Neomythics, New Corporate  
Resistance

Peter Bruntnell,  
Retrospective

Rose & the Nightingale,  
Spirit of the Garden

Larkin Poe & Thom Hell,  
The Sound of the Ocean  
Sou...

Stephen Savage, Future  
Memory

Annette Cantor, Songs to  
the Goddess

Joelle Leandre & Jerome  
Bourdellon, Evidence

Erica Buettner, True Love  
and Water

[Song of the South, Duane  
Allman & the Rise of the  
...](#)

[House of Love, She Paints  
Words in Red](#)

Melvin Taylor, Taylor Made

Soft Machine Legacy,  
Burden of Proof

Paul Roland, Bates Motel

[The Monochrome Set, M-  
80, DVD](#)

Arthur Big Boy Crudup,  
Sunny Road, 1969

Beata Pater, Red



more about Duane's direct influence on the band's style-- and I suppose there would need to be somebody from the band in those days to discuss that. But perhaps DVDs of this sort are not meant to be the last word on the music, and so this one most certainly isn't. For that there are books, and your listening ears.

Nonetheless it gives you a very informative overview of the Duane/Allman's advent. I was fascinated and if you want to know more about Duane and the Allman's history, I think you will be too.

Posted by [Grego Applegate Edwards](#) at 7:57 AM

Labels: [allman brothers](#), [duane allman](#), [duane allman guitar](#), [jam band history](#), [song of the south dvd](#) [gapple gate guitar review](#), [southern rock](#)

**No comments:**

### Post a Comment

Enter your comment...

Comment as:  ▼

[Newer Post](#)

[Home](#)

[Older Post](#)

Subscribe to: [Post Comments \(Atom\)](#)