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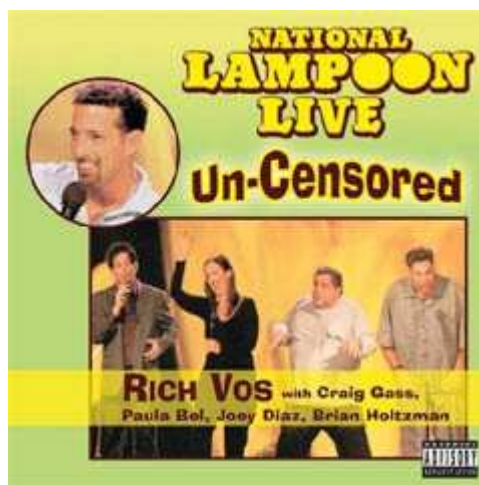
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National Lampoon Live:
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National Lampoon Reco

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On the heels of National Lampoon's live album featuring Frank Calier comes an all new comedy album. This time around the featured performer is comedian Rich Vos. The performance also includes stand-up Paula Bel, Craig Gass, Joey Diaz, and Brian Holtzman.

Up first here is main performer Rich Vos. Although I tried really hard into his material, I just don't think he's very funny here. I have seen him perform before and I don't believe that this is anywhere near his best. Up next is comedienne Paula Bel and she is just flat out not funny. Her delivery is awkward at best and well...she's just not that funny. Brian Holtzman does a better job than any of those three but his material is well-received and, possibly because of that, he seems to fall flatter than others despite his material being better.

Craig Gass and Joey Diaz redeem the album and are the only possible reasons you might consider coming back to this. Part of Diaz's charm is the fact that he sounds and looks like NYC mob lackey in a straight-up Sopranos kinda way. Gass chimes in with an impersonation bit on various celebrities imitating Elvis Presley, providing listeners with the only real laugh out loud moment in the performance.

Although the Caliendo led performance album had its fair share of dc

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(literally) dirty comedy, this album has little aside from it. That is likely a downfall. Not that some of it isn't funny, because it is, you just don't get much of a reprieve from it, unlike the last album. As a proponent of the band, I didn't feel this performance album had much of it. I suggest the last album before this one. If you can't get enough of stand-up comedy though, you might want to check this one out regardless because there just isn't much of it there.

Reviewed by Mark Fisher

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