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The Aristocrats frozen on stage

by Gianni Rojatti [user # 17404] - published on 02 June 2021 at 2.30pm

Less than a month ago Freeze came out! Live in Europe 2020, live by the Aristocrats, the super band of Guthrie Govan, Bryan Beller and Marco Minnemann who in the last ten have contributed to rejuvenating the fusion with inserts of technical quality, sound and stylistic contamination. An indispensable contribution to rekindle a different interest in this genre and - above all - coming from a fresher audience.

To freeze is a fun verb to describe what a live recording does, preserving a concert over time. Thus allowing us, when we want, to return to taste and savor the notes and vibrations of that evening again: the sounds, the excitement of the audience, the interplay of the musicians. The unique inflection that that song takes on in that performance, now immortalized on record. But in this case, as explicitly said by the three Aristocrats, FREEZE! Live In Europe 2020 is the testimony of a musical world that has had - for more than a year - to freeze in order not to wither and rot in a cursed forced stop.







How much we listen on FREEZ! Live In Europe 2020 is the testimony of a band of aliens who, after a hundred tour dates, play sublime but at the beginning of March 2020 must stop the concerts.

So, faced with the dark months that suddenly unfold, he decides to publish this musical photo that portrays them beautiful and talented, divinities of their kind, in the last concerts recorded in Spain between Bilbao, Sevilla and Murcia in the past February.

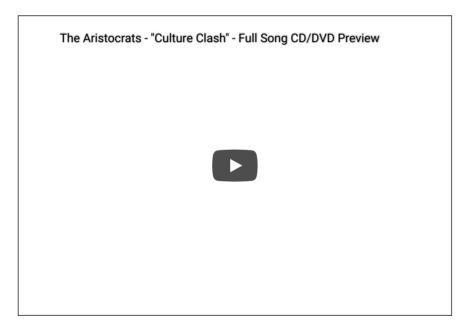
A photo so as not to forget what it was like and encourage yourself to regain, as soon as possible, the unique dimension of the live.

Because what hurts this live is not just how good Guthrie, Marco and Bryan play. And there is something for everyone: each person embodies the technical and expressive standard of their instrument and, moreover, the live is recorded in an exceptional way, with hallucinating definition, dynamics, spatiality. (Speaking of dynamics, these three cursed ones on "Last Orders" go down so low and in such a homogeneous way, as to convince you at first listening that it is a fade out!)

What hurts more is that listening to the <u>Aristocrats</u>fluttering among their pieces and furore between jams, improvisations, solos smack the nose on the fact that although all of us musicians have been capable and heroic in keeping our business alive with remote collaborations (video, live streaming ...) everything it is but a weak and lukewarm substitute for the stage.

This live gives you a damn desire to play live: to hear an audience applauding when you put on the right twist while the rhythm section pounds on the bass and drums madly.

Listening to this record with headphones makes you feel like dying the lack of deciding that the song will start with an open groove; then there will be the theme and the chorus. But that everything that will happen in between - up to the theme and chorus that will lead to the finale - will be the result of looks, interaction, flashes, interplay, solo. Not of messages exchanged between mail, voice and chat.



On the disc there are six songs and, in the style of the Aristocrats, two signed by each of the three protagonists.

On "Get It Like That" Marco Minnemann plays a fantasy drum solo dedicated to the memory of Neal Peart $\,$ of Rush.

A final note on Guthrie Govan who in this live has a sound, above all clean, celestial: modulations and environments envelop with skill and taste hallucinating stylistic digressions between country, funk, jazz and shred explosions. Govan was certainly the most significant guitarist of the last 10 years and listening to him improvise live in solos, you feel the style of the most technically brilliant and spectacular guitarists of the moment (from Matteo Mancuso to Max Ostro, passing through Andrè Nieri and Tom Quayle) owes a lot, a lot - and even more - to this brilliant musician.

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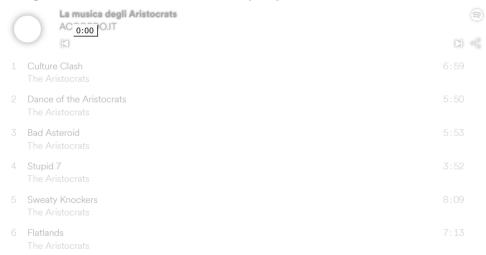
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<u>Listen and buy FREEZE! Live in Europe 2020</u>

The Aristocrats website

Listings recommended on the ACCORDO Spotify channel



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