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THE ARISTOCRATS: album review "FREEZE! Live In Europe 2020" (May 2021)

THE ARISTOCRATS is not a band quite like the others. First of all because the three musicians who compose it are among the best musicians in the world in the practice of their instrument, then because their music is particularly atypical, finally because being present at a concert of this group makes it possible to share and to live a *"particular and original experience"*...

The musicians made the decision to do the new live album once the tour stopped due to the Covid. They had planned in advance a kind of souvenir of this tour, and they had decided to record most of their shows. Failure to complete their Asia and Latin America tour dates resulted in a hand-picked selection of "You Know What...?!" tour highlights being presented earlier than expected.

I wrote, after having attended a concert of the ARISTOCRATS of this tour in France in January 2020 : *There are certain live performances which we appreciate to attend, to listen to the singers and to watch the musicians s play, but during which visually, in terms of communication and stage play, not much happens... On the contrary, certain groups and certain artists know how to bring this little (or big) plus necessary to transfigure a show and to make it captivating, interactive, and surprising!...*

Their music and their style are more unclassifiable than ever, going down a multitude of different paths and flirting with the borders of Rock, Jazz fusion and Progressive without being able to claim it as a unique, synthetic and "conventional", a bit like what King Crimson did forty years ago. Unique musicians with a totally atypical style and hyper personalized in a way!... The creation is there, the audacity is present in each note, the originality is permanent... The technique of the musicians... No need to talk about it when you know their level , but they know how to play and compose with a certain humility without making useless demonstrations and showing, demonstrating, showing quite naturally that they are among the best technicians in the world! These highly creative musicians are dusting off and pushing the boundaries of "unconventional" music in a way. They "break the codes" by sometimes adding a bit of fun... and that's a real feat!

On the other hand, this group knows how to offer the spectators a real show, with audacity, conversations, animation, laughter... in a totally new, surprising, even delirious form!... A single example, very anecdotal, the "dialogue" between a little plastic pig that goes "groin-groin" manipulated by Marco Minnemann, and a plastic chicken that goes "cot-cot" used by Bryan Beller!...

These 3 musicians are Progressive Rock aliens... Attending a concert by this group "changes the codes"!... Their overall performance is astonishing and captivating!!!

Of course, I can only reiterate these writings. The album **"FREEZE! Live In Europe 2020"** , which will be released in May 2021, transcribes all the particularities mentioned above as well as the unbridled creative genius of their performers.

- Band and album(s) highly recommended by Prog-Mania!

Line-up: **Guthrie Govan** (guitar), **Bryan Beller** (bass), **Marco Minnemann** (drums)

<https://www.facebook.com/aristocratsband/>

<https://the-aristocrats-band.com/>



🔖 Bryan Beller , Guthrie Govan , Marco Minnemann , the aristocrats . 🚩 Favorite .

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