

AT CARIBIA 994-HALL, TURKU, FINLAND ON 31ST DEC. 2003~1ST JAN. 2004

HANOI ROCKS pix & report : Ilkka Johansson NEGATIVE pix : Mauri Pennanon

HANOJ ROCKSから突如コステロ<g>が脱退、そして… 越しギグにオリジナル・メンバーのナスティ・スーサイド参加! 前座には注目度赤丸急上昇中のNEGATIVEが出演したギグを シランドから届いたスペシャル・フォトと共にリポート!!

- ク、眩い煌めき、そしてロックン・ロールが 頭の中心となったのはギター部門だった。サ ロンバードがコステロの代役をいかにこなす

に現われると、80年代にはアンコー to "In The Year '79 / It's Too Late" ートさせた。その瞬間に――たと ていた者がいたとしても――今こ のが比類なきロックン・ロール・シ こが明らかになった!

Obscured" "Delirious" "A Day Late, A Short"が無慈悲に繰り出され、観衆は熱 渦に吞み込まれる。バンドのプレイはタイト コステロの不在で出来た穴をチェックする ク警察"のような者がいたとしても、HANOI CKSがこの事態を見事に乗り切っていること どんなに生意気な悲観論者でも認めざるを得 っただろう。バンドは「TWELVE SHOTS THE ROCKS」のお馴染みの曲を変に飾り立 ことなく、溢れる自信と妥協のないアティテ

仕事ぶりは、余計なことを考えさせる隙もない。

"Bad News"と "Whatcha Want" が続き、エ ネルギーを爆発させる。群衆はノリにノッていて、 マイケル・モンローはステージ全体を利用してワ イルドに飛び跳ね、PAスピーカーによじ登った。 そして叫ぶ――「俺達には皆みたいな人間が必要 なんだ! そして皆は俺みたいな人間 (people like me) を求めているのさ!!

パテ・フリントストーンがキーボードで "In My Darkest Moment"をスタートさせた時、観衆は やっと一息つく間を与えられたが、会場の素晴ら しいムードは些かも損なわれなかった。

さあ、サー・ロンバードが場所を空ける時間 だ。彼はきっちりと仕事をやってのけた。まさに プロフェッショナルだ。

そして一瞬、非現実的な感覚に襲われる---まるで、HANOI ROCKSがHANOI ROCKSの前 座を務めたかのような!

黒に身を包み、髪を短くカットした男が、ギブ ソンのレス・ポールを提げて観衆に嬉しそうに挨 拶をする。このイベントにやって来た人々の目的 は人それぞれだったとしても、ナスティ、マイケ ル、アンディが再び同じステージに立っている今 この時、人の海の中を電流が走り抜けたようだっ た。この場の空気の中で、誰だって冷静でいられ

"Oriental Beat" "Underwater World"と、ヒ

で ABCDEFG, How I love anatomy, 2+2 and 3+3~と歌った時、改心してアカデミーを卒業し たこの男がその昔に既に違うタイプの学校を卒業 したことは明らかだった。そう、HANOI ROCKS ロックン・ロール・ハイスクールだ!

ナスティはステージに立つことを明らかに楽し んでいた。勿論、マイケルとアンディもそうだ。 今夜のバンドは本当に、見事にまとまっていた。 アンディがメインのコードに集中している間、ラ クのドラムスとティンパのベースはパテのキーボ ードと確かな基盤を築き、ナスティはHANOI ROCKSの"音の壁"にロックン・ロールの要素を 加えていた。これにはただただ、コステロの不在 に感謝する他はない。

花火を観衆に手渡したマイケルは、新年を祝う 花火が見えるように、会場の照明は消せるのか、 と訊いた。勿論、こんな時にうろうろと出ていっ て花火を見逃そうという者がいるわけもない。

"I Can't Get It" に続いては "Don't You Ever Leave Me" がプレイされた。アンディは我々に愛 について語った。ギグの間に一度や二度、笑顔を 見せたかもしれない。

数日前にヘルシンキの『Tavastia Club』でのシ ョウの二度目のアンコールで、ナスティが2曲に 参加したのを観た者達は、そのアベタイザーで食 欲を刺激されていた分、今のこの御馳走を貪るよ うに味わっていた。お楽しみはまだまだ続く。

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HANOI ROCKS NEW YEAR'S GIG/CARIBIA 994-HALL, TURKU, FINLAND SUPPORT-NEGATIVE

MICHAEL MONROE MUSIC

THE AUDIENCE IN THE FULLY PACKED HOUSE GOT WHAT THEY HAD COME FOR; LIGHTS, SMOKE, GLITTER AND ROCK'N'ROLL WAS ON OFFER WITH A "NO APOLOGIES" KIND OF ATTITUDE WHEN HANOI ROCKS ROCKED THEIR LAST GIG IN 2003 AND AT THE SAME TIME THEIR FIRST GIG IN 2004.

THE MAIN FOCUS WAS NATURALLY MAINLY ON THE "GUITAR-DEPARTMENT"; HOW DID SIR LOMBARD HANDLE REPLACING COSTELLO, HOW GREAT WAS ANDY MC COY GOING TO BE AND THE GREATEST EXPECTATIONS BEING UPON NASTY SUICIDE VISITING WITH HANOI ROCKS.

AS IN THE "INTRO" BATMAN AND ROBIN GET THEIR BATMOBILE STARTED, THE BAND GLIMMERING IN THE LIGHTS HIT THE STAGE STARTING THEIR SET WITH THE -80'S ENCORE-STANDARD IN THE YEAR '79/IT'S TOO LATE.

IF THERE EVER WAS ANY DOUBT IN ANYBODY'S MIND, IT BECAME OBVIOUSLY CLEAR AT THIS POINT THAT THE ROCK'N' ROLL SHOW WAS IN TOWN!

OBSCURED, DELIRIOUS AND A DAY LATE, A DOLLAR SHORT, DRIVING THE CROWD WILD, WERE SLUNG OUT WITH NO MERCY. THE BAND PLAYED TIGHTLY AND, IF ANYONE WAS THERE TO ACT AS "ROCK-POLICE" TO CHECK ON THE POSSIBLE "GAP" LEFT BY COSTELLO'S ABSENCE, EVEN THE MOST STUCK-UP PESSIMIST WOULD HAVE TO ADMIT THAT HANOI ROCKS HANDLED THE SITUATION BRILLIANTLY, PLAYING FAMILIAR SONGS FROM TWELVE SHOTS ON THE ROCKS WITH NO FRILLS, WITH CONFIDENCE AND AN EXTRAORDINARY NONCOMPROMISING

GENUINE ATTITUDE, THEY LEFT , NO ROOM FOR SPECULATION ABOUT THE GROUP'S DEDICATION TO THEIR WORK;

BAD NEWS AND WHATCHA WANT CONTINUED THE ENERGY EXPLOSION.

THE CROWD WAS WELL WITH IT ALL THE WAY AND MICHAEL MONROE TOOK
ADVANTAGE OF THE ENTIRE STAGE, LEAPING WILDLY ALL ABOUT THE PLACE
AND CLIMBING ON TOP OF THE PA-SPEAKERS. "WE NEED PEOPLE LIKE YOU! & YOU NEED

PLE LIKE A MOMENT TO CATCH OUR BREATH, BUT NOT CHANGING THE GREAT MOOD AND ME! ATMOSPHERE ONE BIT, WHEN PATE FLINTSTONE ON THE KEYBOARDS STARTED OFF IN MY DARKEST MOMENT.

THEN IT WAS TIME FOR SIR LOMBARD TO STEP ASIDE, THE MAN HAD DONE A GREAT JOB, A PROFESSIONAL AS HE IS. FOR A MOMENT THE FEELING WAS UNREAL; IT WAS AS IF HANOI ROCKS HAD OPENED UP FOR HANOI ROCKS!

A MAN IN BLACK, NEATLY CUT HAIR, A GIBSON LES PAUL AND A HAPPY GREETING TO THE AUDIENCE. EVEN IF PEOPLE HAD COME TO THE EVENT FOR DIFFERENT REASONS; WHEN NASTY, MICHAEL AND ANDY WENT AT IT TOGETHER ONCE AGAIN -IT WAS AS IF AN ELECTRIC CURRENT HAD GONE THROUGH THE SEA OF PEOPLE. THAT KIND OF AN ATMOSPHERE SURELY CAN'T HAVE LEFT ANYONE COLD.

ORIENTAL BEAT, UNDERWATER WORLD. HITS WE WANTED AND HITS WE GOT.
WHEN NASTY SANG ON HIGHSCHOOL "A,B,C,D,E,F,G, HOW I LOVE ANATOMY,
2+2 AND 3+3..." IT WAS OBVIOUS THAT THIS REFORMED ACADEMY GRADUATE
HAD ALREADY PREVIOUSLY GRADUATED FROM A DIFFERENT TYPE OF SCHOOL;
THE HANOI ROCKS ROCK'N'ROLL HIGHSCHOOL!

NASTY WAS CLEARLY ENJOYING HIMSELF ON STAGE AND SO WERE MICHAEL AND ANDY. THIS WAS ONCE AGAIN A NIGHT WHEN THE BAND WAS REALLY "ON". WHILE ANDY CONCENTRATED ON THE ESSENTIAL, LACU AND TIMPA LAID A STEADY FOUNDATION ACCOMPANIED BY PATE'S KEYBOARDS, NASTY ADDED SUCH A ROCK'N'ROLL ELEMENT TO THE "HANOI-WALL-OF-SOUND" THAT ONE COULD ONLY BE THANKFUL FOR COSTELLO'S ABSENCE.

MICHAEL HANDED OUT SPARKLERS TO THE AUDIENCEY ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO REMOVE THE HALL'S CEILING, SO THAT WE COULD SEE THE NEW YEAR'S FIREWORKS. SURELY NOBODY CARED ABOUT MISSING THE FIREWORKS THIS TIME AS NOBODY LEFT THE BUILDING.

I CAN'T GET IT, DONT'T YOU EVER LEAVE ME; ANDY TOLD US ABOUT LOVE AND MIGHT HAVE EVEN CRACKED A SMILE OR TWO DURING THE GIG?
THOSE WHO HAD CAUGHT NASTY A FEW DAYS BEFORE IN HELSINKI JOINING IN FOR TWO SONGS IN THE SECOND ENCORE AT HANOI ROCKS' SHOW AT THE TAVASTIA-CLUB, WERE PROBABLY THE HUNGRIEST FROM THE "APPETIZER" THEY HAD BEEN SERVED AND WERE NOW DEVOURING A BIGGER PORTION OF THIS RARE DELICACY:..OF WHICH THERE WAS AN ABUNDANCE STILL TO COME: TRAGEDY, MALIBU BEACH AND UP AROUND THE BEND, WHICH FINISHED THE SET. NASTY HAD RETURNED AS IF HE HAD NEVER BEEN GONE.

HANOI ROCKS LEFT THE STAGE, BUT ONLY FOR A MOMENT BECAUSE THE CROWD UNDERSTANDABLY DEMANDED MORE: "I'LL BE YOUR...TAXI DRIVER!..." AND THOSE WHO HAD EXPERIENCED THE BAND ABOUT 20 YEARS BEFORE COULD REALLY REMINISCE. WHEN THE LAST ECHOES OF FEEL ALRIGHT HAD FINALLY FADED OUT, THERE WAS NO DOUBT THAT EVERYONE PRESENT REALLY DID "FEEL ALRIGHT" TO SAY THE LEAST.

THE YEAR HAD CHANGED AND OUTSIDE ALL KINDS OF ROCKETS WERE WHIZZING AROUND AND LIGHTING UP THE SKY. THE NEW YEAR'S CLIMAX HAD BEEN REACHED AND THE FIREWORK DISPLAY HAD BEEN REPLACED BY REAL LIVE AMMO, COURTESY OF HANOI ROCKS!

OBVIOUSLY NASTY WOULD BE OUR FAVORITE MAN FOR THE JOB, BUT WHOEVER MAY END UP IN HIS PLACE IN 2004, HANOI ROCKS SEEMS MORE THAN READY TO TAKE ON ANY NEW CHALLENGES THE FUTURE MAY HOLD...

ILKKA JOHANSSON