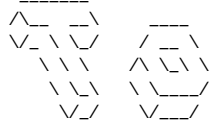
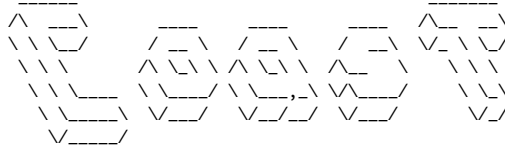


The
GLENN
HUGHES
Electronic
Fanzine



Issue
#15
December 25
1995



|||||
INTRODUCTION
|||||

All,

Happy Holidays! It is December 25 as I gather together #15! And it will be December 25, at least in Mississippi (USA), when I send it out. And while I personally don't celebrate christmas, I'm sure many of you do. This is a time of year that everyone comes together and shares close ties with family and friends, regardless of personal religion. So, with that in mind, Happy Holidays once again!

Now, in that this is a time of friendship and such, it is appropriate that in this issue, among other things, we have a holiday greeting from Glenn. Also, we have the responses to the poll for best album of 1995. This is a chance for all of us to get to know each other's tastes a little better. And a chance for us to point at someone else's response and exclaim "you picked what?!" :) Or even "you didn't pick WHAT?!" Heh, heh. :)

Oh and thanks to Glenn for keeping the music coming. Also, thanks to Bill Hibbler for all he does. Thanks to all the readership. And, huge, oh so big special thanks to the Editors for helping the boat float. Thanks guys, sorry I couldn't make it to New York to visit.

Anyhow, a few days short of our 1 year anniversary .. here is COAST TO COAST #15. Enjoy, and many fine memories to all of you!

Lewis

|||||
SUBMISSIONS
|||||

From: holmgren@basys.svt.se
Subject: CTC: Xmas greeting

All,

Glenn wanted me to forward this greeting:



I would like to wish all the readers of Coast to Coast the best Xmas ever and the best possible New Year!

I really appreciate all your support, love, comments etc...

I wish you all the very best and hope to see You all on tour in 1996. Hopefully late spring in the U.S., summer in Europe

and Japan by the end of the year.

Glenn

=====

-END-

From: holmgren@basys.svt.se
Subject: CTC: Re: Where DOES the Tongue Slip?

In the last two editions of Coast to Coast there have been some discussions about where Glenn can be heard on the Whitesnake album. Although the answer to most of us probably is nowhere ;C Glenn did background vocals for 4 different songs:

FOOL FOR YOUR LOVING, SLOW POKE MUSIC, KITTENS GOT CLAWS and one more

NOT Sailing Ships though - that's Tommy Funderburk who is trying to copy Glenn's way of singing...

But as I wrote some issues ago Glenn isn't sure himself where he actually can be heard :C

Paer

-END-

From: Damien DeSimone <glennpa@nic.com>
Subject: CTC: Phenomena video/Thanks, everyone!

In CTC #14, Jake <calved00@usfca.edu> wrote:

> I wanted to inquire about the first Phenomena album. At the time of its
> release, I read that there was a tentative animated concept video in the
> works. Apparently, the image to be used was Glenn's as the sort of guide
> through the girl's psychic world. Did this video ever materialize, and
> if so, where might I obtain a copy(preferably in NTSC format)? Please
> let me know if you have an information on this. Thank you.

As far as I know, the Phenomena video was never made. It was definitely part of the original concept of Phenomena, but I think the idea of the video was dropped when the album didn't sell very well, and I think there was some trouble with the record company at the time, along with perhaps other reasons. I've never heard of the idea of having Glenn's "image" being a part of the film though! :) For a comprehensive overview of the concept behind Phenomena - the meaning of the songs and the plans for the film - Kerrang did an excellent two-part feature story on that back in 1985. Off the top of my head, I think it was issues 97 and 98.

On a different note, thanks to everyone who submitted reviews of Glenn's live shows from last month! They were very interesting to read, and it brought all of us who didn't get a chance to see them feel that much closer to all the action! Great work, folks.

Lastly, Happy Holidays to Glenn, Bill Hibbler, their families, and everyone on CTC!!! Thanks to everyone who has contributed and helped out with CTC this year; it's been great so far!!! See ya next year! :)

-Damien-

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| Damien DeSimone           | "I'm a soul singer in a rock genre. I've   |
| Mahwah, New Jersey USA    | been trying to break out of the rock thing |
| glennpa@nic.com           | for years." GLENN HUGHES, 1993            |
| Co-editor, "COAST TO COAST: THE GLENN HUGHES ELECTRONIC FANZINE" |
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-END-

From: holmgren@basys.svt.se
Subject: CTC: The Band

Here is the lineup for the band that Glenn used on the Feel-tour:

GEORGE NASTOS - lead guitar

DAVE PATTON - lead guitar
PAUL KIRKHAM - bass
GLENN DEITSCH - drums
RUBEN VALTIERA - keyboards

Dave and Paul are from Newcastle, UK. The other three are from US; George and Glenn from NY and Ruben from LA.

Ruben has worked on a number of records, including some stuff with Stevie Wonder. The other four are less experienced.

For the upcoming album, which will be recorded in Feb/Mar, Glenn may use the Americans but not the Brits. Just as on Feel, he intends to handle the bass himself :)

Paer

-END-

From: holmgren@basys.svt.se
Subject: CTC: Set list

THE SET LIST FOR THE FEEL TOUR, NOVEMBER 1995,

=====

(UK, Paris, Moscow, St Petersburg)

BIG TIME
LIAR (not in London, Paris)
MUSCLE AND BLOOD
YOU ARE THE MUSIC, WE'RE JUST THE BAND
YOUR LOVE IS ALL RIGHT (b)
PUSH
THIS TIME AROUND (not in London)
COAST TO COAST
I WILL BE MISSING YOU
WAY BACK TO THE BONE (b)
FIRST STEP OF LOVE (b)
YOU FOOL NOONE
YOU KEEP ON MOVING
TALKIN TO MESSIAH (only the first night in Glasgow)

GETTING TIGHTER (b)
STORMBRINGER

BURN

(b) = Glenn played bass

-END-

From: holmgren@basys.svt.se
Subject: CTC: Trombonist and Trumpet Player

As you all know, at least all of you who read the last CTC, there is a *new* compilation with Trapeze out on CD. Here is a little nice detail about it:

On the back it says:
Glenn Hughes: Bass Guitar, Six-String Guitar, Piano, T-r-o-m-b-o-n-e, Lead Vocals: 1-10
...
John Jones: T-r-u-m-p-e-t, 1, 10

(Tracks 1 and 10 is Send Me No More Letters from the first album, long and short version)

Now as we all know there is no Trumpets or Trombones on these records, John Jones was the lead singer in the first Trapeze, before they became a 3-piece, BUT on stage John Jones often had a Trumpet and pretended that he would play on it ;)

And what about Glenn and his Trombone then?

Well, it was Glenn's first instrument, he played it for 2 or 3 years around the age of 10, but NEVER with Trapeze...

OTHERWISE it is a good compilation, but too short IMO

-Paer-

-END-

From: holmgren@basys.svt.se

Subject: CTC: Where the Toungue DOES Slip!

In the last two editions of CTC there has been some discussion on where (if anywhere) Glenn is doing backing vocals on Whitesnake's Slip of the Toungue.

Last week I listened through some of the tracks with Glenn in my car, and sure you CAN here him on some of the tracks, at least two;

CHEAP 'N NASTY and FOOL FOR YOUR LOVING

Listen to the chorus lines on these and you will here *something* way above David's range ;)

Glenn is pretty sure he is on at least one other track as well, but he can't remember which one it is, (and we couldn't find it because all of the tracks weren't included on my tape). It is not the titletrack or Sailing Ships though, here it is Tommy Funderburk's voice up there instead. David had planned to use Glenn on Slow Poke Music as well but it didn't turn out that way :(

Hearing is believing!

-Paer-

From: holmgren@basys.svt.se

Subject: CTC: The outlooks for 1996

Here is the forecast for the upcoming year ;-)

After the Feel tour Glenn had planned to have some vacation here in Sweden, before starting his work on the next album. He stayed here for three weeks, but vacation - NO WAY ;=)

Back in CTC-11 you could read about my wedding at which Glenn did Getting Tighter and Stormbringer together with some other friends of mine. This was back in May, the 27th to be precise, and it actually was the last time Glenn was on a stage with his long hair (!) Glenn was very impressed by, particularly, the guitar player, Joakim Marsh, and said that he wanted to see him again on some occasion. Joakim and his bassplayer, Sampo Axelsson had written a couple of songs - or maybe I should say they had some ideas. So, I took Glenn to their little studio, and there something happened which probably best is described as M-A-G-I-C

The first time they presented three (unfinished) songs to Glenn, early the next morning Glenn had written lyrics, melodies and done some rearrangements. Due to his cold he wasn't able to do a proper demorecording though :(After some three days in the studio - some other get-togethers - and a zillion phone calls Glenn had written nine songs together with Joakim and Sampo !!!! I have only heard four of them so far, and as I said to Glenn - if these songs don't make it to his next album, that album has got to be something out of this world...

Glenn is focused on doing a much heavier and, if possible, at the same time more groovy record than Feel was, and these songs were exactly what he was looking for. It is songs in the same tradition as Gettin Tighter, Muscle & Blood, First Step of Love, Talkin to Messiah - to name a few. And I promise you it DOESN'T AT ALL sound like the usual swedish pop-metal that some of you dislike.

Joakim and I have been friends for more than ten years so it's hard for me to judge him and compare him to other guitarplayers - but I honestly can't name ONE other guitar player that I think would suite Glenn better right now! His playing is something between Pat Thrall and Tommy Bolin with a touch of Hendrix now and then. He used to be very influenced by Steve Vai - but he's got a lot more soul and funk in his playing than Vai has. So no big wonder that Glenn liked what he heard.

Glenn is going to do the vocals for the demo when he gets back to LA early next year and then continue his work with preproduction so he can go into the studio by mid-February. He hopes to have everything recorded and mixed by the end of March.

I really hope that this album is going to be released in America as well - it is hardrock but NOT the european type of hardrock as on From Now On. With the exception of Seventh Star it is probably going to be the heaviest album Glenn has ever done but at the same time there is melodies much in the Trapeze tradition. I sure do look forward to see and HEAR what this turns out like and I know that YOU are too - This is really a good ending of 95, lets hope that 96 will continue in the same way...

-Paer Holmgren-
(Meteorologist)

-END-

From: KenMelton@aol.com
Subject: CTC: TRAPEZE-High Flyers

Howdy,

In the last CTC we learned that the import CD called TRAPEZE-High Flyers is the CD version of the album called The Final Swing (a Trapeze best of). I have had the import on order for quite a while and have yet to receive it. I just picked up an ICE Magazine today and it showed that the CD Trapeze-High Flyers will be released in the U.S. on February 27 on the Threshold label. I am very anxious to get this CD. Even if you already have the other Trapeze CD's this best of has 2 songs that were not released on the other Trapeze CD's.

One is a funky instrumental called Dat's It. I have read that this was an unfinished song that was put on the album without the knowledge of Trapeze.

I still like it though.

The other song -Good Love- is a beautiful song with Glenn's trademark vocals and some excellent instrumentation. I really like the Trapeze sound and this song alone makes it worth getting. For those of us who have worn out Trapeze albums this is a blessing. I, for one, have anxiously awaited these 2 songs to appear on CD.

I would love to get on CD some new Trapeze stuff. I really like that funk/rock style that they so easily glide through. The Hughes-less Trapeze album Hot Wire, was a real great funky album but really needed Glenn's vocals. Trapeze (with Glenn) was a super band. Maybe, someday....

Ken

-END-

From: William Jones <billj@polaris>
Subject: CTC: Submission

We at Coast To Coast have been in recent contact with Manfred Ehlert, whose 1994 album AMEN featured Glenn singing three songs. Following is the news we have from the Manfred camp in Switzerland:

- The recording for AMEN II is complete, and Manfred is in the process of mixing it now. Since he has a regular day job and music is only an avocation for now, the mixing is going slowly as Manfred does most of the work himself. He says the album should be released in the Spring.

- Glenn again sings on AMEN II, though only on one song this time. Marc Storace is the main vocalist.

- When Manfred originally conceived the AMEN project, the idea he had was that one vocalist would be used. In 1989, when Glenn recorded his vocal parts for AMEN I, they weren't able to complete the album. But in July 1995, Glenn and Manfred again got together in Switzerland, and depending on the success of AMEN II, they talked about doing AMEN III with Glenn doing all the vocals.

- Manfred says that the original AMEN album is available now in eight countries, even though his record company did not promote it. He was pleased, however, that AMEN generated many positive reviews, and he is hopeful that AMEN II "will go a couple of steps forward."

- I kidded Manfred about the spelling mistakes on the AMEN cd; the title of "I Don't Want To Lose My Mind" was misspelled as "Loose" on the cd cover, and there were similar mistakes inside the lyric booklet. He responded that his mother language is German, and it was up to him to do all the proofreading, and things just got by him. Rather than being offended by my pointing it out, he said he was glad that people were actually listening closely to the music and reading the booklet.

- I also gave him my thoughts on AMEN, track by track, and he was very receptive to the criticisms. He encourages fans to send him letters with their thoughts as well. In all, Manfred Ehlert is a very nice guy who goes out of his way to answer fan mail in a polite and timely manner. We at Coast To Coast truly wish him the best in all his endeavors, and appreciate the time he spent answering our questions.

-END-

From: KQAQ09B@prodigy.com (MR KEN J SENYO)
Subject: ctc

Seasons Greetings fellow Glenn Hughes fans!

My wish for Christmas is a list of Glenn Hughes U.S. tour dates, and my New Years resolution is to attend as many of those shows as possible.

I hope Santa comes through!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
Ken in Ohio

-END-

From: tdokken@sn.no (Terje Dokken)
Subject: CTC: subject-string

I was reading through some back-issues of CTC the other day.
In no.10 Damien requested more info on Bruce Gowdy.
Here's what I've got;

STONE FURY "Burns like a Star" (MCF 3249 / MCA 1984)
He formed this band with with singer Lenny Wolf (later in Kingdom Come).
This is a very good melodic hard rock album.
Produced by Andy Johns ("Hughes/Thrall").

STONE FURY "Let them talk" (MCA 5788 / MCA 1986)
This is pretty good too, although a little poppier than the first.
Produced by Richard Landis.
These two albums were re-released on CD earlier this year.
(Retroactive 050028-2 / 050011-2)

WORLD TRADE "World Trade" (839626-2 / Polydor 1989)
This is so close to Yes, I'm suprised they didn't sue their asses off!
But it's really good, it tops my playlist right now.He works with his song-writing partner, keyboardist Guy Allison, for the first time, in this band.
Excellent production by Keith Olsen.

UNRULY CHILD "Unruly Child" (7567-92101-2 /Interscope 1992)
In Unruly Child he teams up with another vocal-God; Mark Free.
It's a classic melodic rock album. Harder than Stone Fury, but with great songs (a couple of lame lyrics though).Again an excellent production job, this time by Beau Hill (Ratt/Winger/Warrant).

BOBBY KIMBALL "Rise Up" (904101-2 / Mausoleum 1994)
Solo album from ex-TOTO singer Bobby Kimball. Gowdy plays guitar + some bass and keyboards. The strange thing about this album is it includes six tracks from the Unruly Child record + four new Gowdy/Allison-tunes. The arrangments on the Unruly Child-songs are identical - what's the point? B-vox by Michael Sadler (Saga) and Mark Free.

WORLD TRADE "Euphoria" (RR 8913-2 / Roadrunner 1995)
Still very much influenced by Yes, this time with a more progressive sound.

Singer/bassist Billy Sherwood's voice is almost identical to Jon Anderson's.
Good album, but I still think the first one has the better songs.

MARCIE FREE "Tormented" (LIR 00118 / Long Island 1995)

I suspect this to be the second Unruly Child album, when they were going under the name Twelve Pound Sledge. The line-up is the same, and it's recorded in 1993. It's harder than the first, and in my opinion, quite disappointing. (There are some rumours going 'round that Mark Free has gone through a sex-change operation (Mark >>> Marcie) ???!!!)

If anybody have any further information about this man's career, please let me know!

Terje Dokken
tdokken@sn.no

-END-

From: Fedor de Lange <lange.fde@sara.nl>
Subject: CTC: Hughes interview Belgium DPAS, 05 oct. 1995

Hi all,

I've tried to translate a little interview (a so called "phoner"), the chairman of the Belgian DPAS did with Glenn on the 5th of oct. 1995, when -correct me when I'm wrong- Hughes was in Hannover at SPV-records' office.

DPAS: What does your hair look like at the moment?

HUGHES: Very short. I had it cut because...well, I think long hair is a stereotype. In a rock- or popband you're expected to look the way people want you to look. The last years I've tried to do something else from time to time, and I thought it necessary to take a new initiative. I think having my hair cut this short, shows me "being strong", and that's the way I feel those days. Since the Via Rock show (july 1995 - FdL) I had it cut once more, but I guess I'll have it grown again...

DPAS: I like your new cd "Feel" very much -Thank you- how did you came up with the title?

HUGHES: When you look in the booklet, and have a close look on the lyrics, you'll notice that the word "feel" occurs about forty times. This time I wanted to make a record which dealt with expression, about passion, in a way I had never done before. That's why I did not release a hardrock album with a dozen of metal songs. I felt at ease with this kind of music, and "feel" is a word of passion in which I lay my soul.

DPAS: You have a new line-up for the new tour?

HUGHES: Yes, I have George Nastos and Dave Patton on Guitar, Paul Kirkham on bass, and myself as well. Ruben Delpierri (I think it should be Ruben Voltiera - FdL) on keyboards, and this weekend I'll have to find a new drummer. (Which is Glenn Deitsch - FdL) It's a strong rockband.

DPAS: What kinda concert can we expect?

HUGHES: You know I have a numerous rockfans, and I wont let them down. I'm sure that some people out there are worried that that I'll become too funky or too poppy. I do have a lot of soul in me, but...don't worry, I have a rockvoice too. I would like to do something else this year, which will be a rock show with a big stress on the funk-aspect, filled with some ballads like "Coast to Coast". Anyway, it will be rock for the greater part.

DPAS: After your Via Rock-gig some fans correctly notified that the songs on which you handed the bass had much more power in them. Why don't you play bass on all the songs?

HHUGHES: They're right. I've got to tell you that I really miss playing bass, and you'll discover that between now and two years from now, I'll probably been completely turned back to playing bass again. Don't nail me on my words, but this could be one of the last times you see me without the bass. I feel relaxed with a bassguitar, but the same thing applies for being a leadsinger, but it's all part of the unity known as Glenn Hughes. And people expect that too, but, again, I'm someone who likes to turn people thinking...

DPAS: What's been known as far as the new tourdates are concerned?

HUGHES: We cancelled everything except for England and Paris. I'll try to explain why. The costs of playing are thousands and thousands of pounds because I don't earn that much money as when I was still in Purple, as you will understand. Not that my income is bad, but it costs too much to let people from the States come to Europe; so I decided to make the tour a big English one, including a concert in Paris. The rest is delayed till next year.

DPAS: So, in 1996, we will see you in action in Belgium and Holland?

HUGHES: You bet, I love playing in those areas.

DPAS: You have an American management and adres, but what about your career over there? Will your new album be released in the US, and will you do a tour?

HUGHES: (be prepared CTC-ers! ;-)) - FdL) In april and may of next year we will tour there, and my album will be released there in the spring.

DPAS: What's the first single of the current album?

HUGHES: "Save me tonight", which has already been released, is a logical choice.

DPAS: And will there be a video of it?

HUGHES: I've made a video, but not for MTV. I made it to have it spread around, but it's not really a videoclip. I might make one the coming six weeks.

DPAS: It's about a year ago now, since you released a cd, and started doing gigs again in some kind of stable pattern. Did this year fullfilled your expectations?

HUGHES: I would love to tell you that the last year brought me everything I had wished for, but I'm the kinda person who's never satisfied, and who has to keep working 366 days a year. The past year had some weak moments, which were due to problems with my management and my recordlabel. Next year, I guess you'll see me in action a lot more, I hope in Europe too.... (! - FdL)

DPAS: I assume that you're gonna make a new album next year?

HUGHES: I start on it in the spring, and the plan is to have it released in the summer. The most important thing is that I'm alive, that people hear about me, and that I'll make that sure everywhere.

DPAS: You'll stick to the direction of "Feel"?

HUGHES: NO. This was a single project. It's a collection of songs brought together for special reason: the fans expected an album full of changes, and I make music for my fans. But I guess next year I'll make music for a company who's gonna push me in the direction of rock or soul. Guess it will be rock...

DPAS: Thanks for this conversation

Bye!

So...if all this will become reality...we'll finally have some concerts in the USA! This must be pretty good Christmas-news for you -Lewis, Damien, Bill etc.- guys! Bill Hibbler told me there is a change of Glenn playing in Europe after the US-tour, that means in the summer. For the financial aspect, summer-festivals will be tried to play at.

Anyway, I'll quit now, ("I'm no computerman.."), and I'll have a drink on you all CTC-ers for a great Hughesfull 1996!!

Merry Christmas!

Cheers,

Fedor

-END-

From: Fedor de Lange <lange.fde@sara.nl>
Subject: CTC: Finders Keepers

Hi,

I don't know whether I posted this before but...
Last month in Paris, I asked Glenn's close friend and personal assistant Andy (forgot his last name, sorry) about Glenn's role on that Finders Keepers single. He answered that he wasn't completely sure after all these years, but that Glenn was definitely NOT singing on that single. He might have been playing bass though...
Later on, I asked Glenn himself. He said that he was by no means involved with that single. According to Glenn, it were all "studio musicians" who played, (whatever he meant with that). Anyway, there was no change to talk further about the subject, so...I hope it helps.
Cheers,
Fedor

|||||
CONTRIBUTIONS
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From: Frontiers #7 (UK)
Date: August 1995
Written by: Karyn Mackay
Transcribed by: Damien DeSimone

GLENN HUGHES
FEEL

ZERO XRCN-1243

On FEEL, Glenn Hughes has made an obvious decision style-wise. In fact, it is so musically diverse that I'm not sure that we at Frontiers should be reviewing it. However, we are all grownups, and, if you don't like it, you can lump it. FEEL, as promised by Glenn himself in issue #3, delivers something slightly different from what we have come to expect. A competent musician and a tremendous vocal performer, Mr. Hughes starts to show us some of his true capabilities and potential on this, his current release. This is an album of exploration and a finding of a style that Glenn has been searching for, well, years. Jazz, pop, soul, and rock all mix together to give a masterpiece which you can dip into at any time and find something new. You almost get the feeling that Glenn has given his heart and soul to this project; not just in its recording, but in its execution and writing as well. He is giving us an insight to his very core on this album, and for someone who has had the kind of life that he has, it can't be an easy thing to do. However, I tend to get the feeling that inside Glenn lurks a black soul or jazz performer. Although Pat Thrall wrote and played on a good part of the album, this is most definitely not a Hughes/Thrall album; time has moved on, and so has Glenn. His marketing on this album has got to be different if he wants to make an impact on his possible new audience. A more middle-class image is needed, and Glenn seems to realize this, as he is now very thin and sporting a short haircut (this is worrying his mother, who deserves my thanks for putting up with my phone calls). His new management has to realize that Kerrang and Headbangers Ball are no longer for him. His new audience will be more "Q" readers, people who like to be comfortable with their music, and to say that FEEL is comfortable is no insult; to produce an album which is mature, thought-provoking, and can make you dance takes some doing. To dip into the songs is a pleasure, but to select a favorite is difficult and pointless, as they seem different each time you listen to them, but I like "Coffee And Cream," (sic) which lyrically shows how two totally different people can become a couple, and it just happens to be funky as hell at the same time, a combination which for me makes it hard to resist. I also love the song "Push," which is a vocal extravaganza and will be a killer live. Incidentally, watch this space for more news and information about Glenn and a forthcoming tour. To conclude, which I have to do (or Mark will start editing), I have to say that FEEL is a great album, but might not appeal to everyone. If you don't have soul and don't have a natural desire to wiggle or sing along to James Brown, then this album might not be for you. However, bear in mind that Bruce Gowdy writes and plays on this album, and if that doesn't change your mind, nothing will. If you like Corey Hart or Crowded House, then you will flip over this. Just don't waste your time on the two covers, which are "Maybe Your Baby" (Stevie Wonder) and "Holy Man." There are too many original songs on here to waste your time with these tracks, which are only there to feed the masses and to sell the album in Japan anyway.

-END-

From: Frontline #18 (Sweden)
Date: September 1995
Transcribed by: Damien DeSimone

GLENN HUGHES
"I FEEL" (sic)
(Advance tape)

Producer: Glenn Hughes

No, no, no. Where the heck is the good sound Glenn had got on the Bruce Gowdy-produced album a year ago? This new album is far from that one. Lousy production, and boring songs. No AOR here! What we've got is a kind of mixture of Hughes/Thrall, rhythm and soul, and weak pop rock. Ok, the man sings, of course, f****g awesome in some parts. Listen, for example, to the end of the song "Save Me Tonight." This man knows how to sing! The best vocal performance though is on the otherwise boring song "Push." Catch hold of a copy of this album, and just listen to the marvelous ending. Can I find anything else to give a compliment about? Hmm... Well, song number two, "Living For The Moment," (sic) is good, and also "Talkin' To Messiah" (the hardest track on this album). But two really good songs out of eleven is not good enough, and his voice can't do everything. So my words about this album are: Damn boring! Unfortunately. Musicians: Glenn Hughes (bass), Pat Thrall, Gary Ferguson, Todd Hunter, Bruce Gowdy.

Grading: 4 (out of 10)

-END-

From: Damien DeSimone <glennpa@nic.com>
Subject: CONTRIB: Review of O'Ryan INITIATE CD

All:

Got hold of another fantastic CD recently... While this particular CD does not feature Glenn, I thought it would still be of interest to CTC due to its content. A few issues back, you may remember that Tomo Yamazaki mentioned that the new CD by Mervyn "O'Ryan" Spence, INITIATE, mainly consisted of covers of tracks from each of the three Phenomena albums, along with a few re-recorded versions of tracks from his first solo album of several years ago. Well, upon learning this, I immediately obtained this CD (of course, I did get my usual two copies:).

Tomo touched on some of this info as well, but here is a listing of the musicians that play on the album and a tracklisting:

O'RYAN - INITIATE (East Bell EBCW-5003, Japan) [1995]

O'Ryan - lead vocals, guitars, bass, programming
Jason Fillingham - keyboards, programming
Martin Taylor - guitar, classical guitar
Huwie Lucas - guitars
Midi Man - drums
Carl Brazil - cymbals, hi hats

Recorded at The Parachute Studio Complex UK, The Music Station UK

Produced by Mervyn Spence

1. No Retreat - No Surrender
2. Still The Night
3. A Whole Lot Of Love
4. Believe
5. Emer May
6. Did It All For Love
7. Something Strong
8. Shape It Up
9. What About Love
10. Phoenix Rising
11. Don't Let It Slip Away
12. It Must Be Love

13. Stop

I must say that I was pleasantly surprised after listening to this! I'm a huge fan of all of the Phenomena albums (including the third one, which is very underrated IMHO), and it was nice "rediscovering" a lot of these tunes, which I hadn't listened to in quite a while. The Phenomena tracks covered here are fairly faithful to the originals and don't break any new ground, though Martin Taylor does add a lot of tasty acoustic classical licks to a lot of the tracks, which is a very nice touch; his work here reminds me very much of Steve Howe's acoustic work on Asia's 1992 album, AQUA. Great stuff. Beyond that, still musically speaking, the album has a bit of a "cold" feel to it due to the programmed drums, but it is very well-produced and recorded, which is something I like. :)

Now to the vocals: As Tomo said, O'Ryan possesses a fine voice, and his singing is very good throughout. He has the ability to sing in various styles, from the poppier stuff on this disc to the heavier stuff, like "Stop." Nice 'n smooth, though not as smooth or beautiful as Glenn, of course. :) In fact, it's pretty bold to attempt to cover songs originally sung by world-class vocalists like Glenn Hughes, Ray Gillen (RIP), John Wetton, and Max Bacon, and, while the cover versions here lack the distinct personality that each of their original individual performances had, O'Ryan does somehow make it work, at least for me. :)

The three non-Phenomena tracks on this disc are very poppy, AOR tracks. Again, these three tracks originally appeared on O'Ryan's first solo album of several years back, which was called SOMETHING STRONG (this was released by Parachute in the UK and more recently on Zero in Japan). I particularly like "Emer May," which is a very classy ballad.

I don't really see the point of releasing an album like this; I mean, do most people even care about Phenomena these days? I think not. That this disc has only been released by a small Japanese label must mean something. :) But there may be more to it than meets the eye... I've heard that there was some sort of problem between Tom Galley and Mervyn Spence during or after the release of the third Phenomena album (Mervyn performed on the album [credited as "O'Ryan"] and was also credited as executive producer), perhaps some sort of legal wrangling, and I've heard that Mervyn may even own the rights to the Phenomena name now, so INITIATE may be some sort of attempt to capitalize on that in the Japanese market? I don't know... These are just rumours I have heard.

In any event, regardless of the circumstances behind this album's release, I think it's essential for any fan of the Phenomena albums; you won't be disappointed. For the more diehard Glenn Hughes fans, like myself <g>, I also feel it's fairly essential. Also, for anyone who likes quality AOR music, you can't go wrong with this disc; after all, if you take away the initial "sci-fi" Phenomena concept, the music you are left with is basically first-rate AOR, and that's what you get here. :)

-Damien-

PS - I believe Bill Jones may be reviewing this CD as well for an upcoming issue, so it'll be interesting to hear what he has to say about it.

-END-

THOSE OTHER SESSIONS (and other things) by Bill Jones

=====

A little different approach was in order for this issue, seeing how it's the year-end Holiday newsletter, so I decided to ramble on about a number of topics, some directly Glenn-related, and some not.

First off, I think we have to admit that 1995 was a pretty good year for Glenn and his fans. For cd output, we got the reissue of 'Play Me Out' on RPM with the four bonus tracks, the official release of 'On The Wings of a Russian Foxbat' (recorded live during the 1976 Deep Purple tour), the Brazen Abbot 'Live and Learn' album (where Glenn sang three songs), the US release of 'Burning Japan Live' (finally!), and of course, his second solo album in as many years, 'Feel,' which I think most of us agree was even better on the whole than last year's still great 'From Now On...' album. He also did a number of live shows

throughout Europe in the Summer and Fall, which our lucky readers who were able to attend reported were quite good. The only bad news was the scandal involving the members of his 'From Now On...' band, who were reported to be claiming that they were not paid for their work during the 1994 tour and were consequently suing Glenn. Fortunately, that issue seems to be resolved now. Let's hope 1996 is as good!

Other thoughts on 1995..."Live And Learn" from the Brazen Abbot album is a great tune, with Glenn in fabulous form. The album will appeal to those who liked the John Norum 'Face The Truth' cd. Speaking of Norum, his 1995 album 'Another Destination' is even more like the blistering hard rock albums of Gary Moore than 'FTT' was, and the track "Strange Days" is worth the price of the cd by itself. Back to Brazen Abbot, check out "Clean Up Man" for a lesson in both guitar and vocal pyrotechnics - virtuosic performances by Glenn and Nikolo Kotzev...

Three-fourths of the Coast To Coast team got together in New York City a few weeks back for a first face to face meeting. Lewis couldn't make it as he's a half a continent away, but it was a mere train ride for Damien and I, who met Lennart for a day of cd shopping, sight-seeing, and getting to know each other. Lennart was in the US on business, so we all took advantage of his visit and had a great time.

Strangest disc of the year award to O'Ryan, for the 'Initiate' cd. This cd consists of 7 covers from the Phenomena and Phenomena II albums! I admit that the singer, who simply goes by O'Ryan, is actually quite good. I also admit that I was fairly impressed by the versions of "Believe," "Phoenix Rising," and "Stop," and even kind of got into them. But it's so weird to hear Glenn songs done by someone else, and kind of pointless. The analogy I kept thinking of is someone covering Yngwie songs - who on earth is going to do it better than the original?

Thoughts on some of the tapes I received in the mail from friends this year...the Via Rock gig in Geraaragsbergen, Belgium on July 15 certainly was a storming show with Glenn pulling out all the vocal stops on "Push." The keyboard player was also quite good - where was this guy when Glenn was recording 'Feel'?...also got a tape of Glenn's appearance on UK TV on the 'Noisy Mothers' programme - it was one of those interviews interspersed with music from his recent albums. Nothing earth-shattering, but a nice explanation for the direction of 'Feel'...on the same tape as 'Noisy Mothers' was a live recording from a benefit in 1994 of original "Whiter Shade of Pale" singer Gary Brooker re-doing his most famous song. Like Glenn, he hasn't lost anything in regards to his voice. Thanks to Patricia McLoughlin and Fedor de Lange for sending tapes, Ken Melton, for the dynamite Trapeze photos (which should be on the GH Web page soon), Henry Sobieski for the Burrn magazine (what photos!), James Ryder for the Raw magazine, Lennart for picking up all my needs regarding European cds, Axel Fischer for getting the cds that Lennart didn't get, and Damien for sending so many tapes and photocopied articles that I can't keep track. Hope I didn't miss anyone, but it is getting late, and I am on my third (or is it fourth) beer.

Rounding things out, is there a more unknown, but awesome hard rock band than Talisman? The new 'Life' cd is incredible, as was last year's 'Humanimal' Parts I & II. Bassist Marcel Jacob simply blows me away, guitarist Fredrik Akesson impresses on virtually every cut, the drumming is always exciting and inventive, and Jeff Scott Soto improves on every album...Song of the year goes to Stevie Salas, for "Tell Your Story Walkin'" from the 'Back From The Living' cd...Salas is also up to his high standards on the excellent Nicklebag '12 Hits and a Bump' cd, and also appears briefly on the just-released 'Black Night: Deep Purple Tribute - According To New York', produced and arranged by T.M. Stevens. This album will really appeal to those who dig the funky side of Glenn. This is the way tribute albums should be done - with really wild takes on the original versions. I just received this cd yesterday, and if I didn't already turn in my Top 5 cds of 1995 for the CTC poll, I certainly would have tried to fit this one in the list somehow...Congratulations to THE VOICE, the official UK Glenn Hughes fan club, for the excellent job they continue to do...Really big appreciation to those in the Glenn Hughes camp responsible for adding mine and Lennart's name to the "Thanks To" list on the European release of the 'Feel' cd booklet - that blew me away and means more than I can say. Thanks for bearing with me everyone, and Happy Holidays to all!

|||||
POLL RESPONSES
|||||

[All,

Here are the poll responses. My apologies, but I trimmed all the entries to just the 5 entries asked for. :) Some of you had comments and honorable mentions, but most everyone else didn't, so I just made them all appear in the same format. Some of you only picked 4 albums. I avoided inserting albums to round you out to 5. :)

Lewis]

From: renato.maestrali@inside.com (RENATO MAESTRALI)

- 1 - Glenn Hughes - Feel
- 2 - Talisman - Life
- 3 - Moody / Marsden - Real Faith
- 4 - Joe Satriani - Joe Satriani

-END-

From: Bill Hibbler

Glenn Hughes -FEEL
Alanis Morissette -JAGGED LITTLE PILL
Charlie Sexton Sextet - UNDER THE WISHING TREE
Jeff Healey Band -COVER TO COVER
Frankly Scarlet - STORIES I'VE HEARD BEFORE

-END-

From: TEPE <tepe@cc2smtp.tdata.no> Tom-Eirik Pettersen

Glenn Hughes - Feel
Deep Purple - On The Wings Of An Russian Foxbat
Red Hot Chili Peppers - One Hot Minute
Morten Harket - A Kind Of Christmas Card
Aaron Neville - The Tattooed Heart

-END-

From: KenMelton@aol.com

Glenn Hughes - FEEL
Coco Montoya - GOTTA MIND TO TRAVEL
Chris Duarte Group - TEXAS SUGAR/STRAT MAGIC
Papa Chubby - BOOTY AND THE BEAST
Jr. Medlow - THRILL FOR THRILL

-END-

From: led@execusoft.com (Lawrence E. Debow)

Nicklebag (Stevie Salas & Bernard Fowler)-12 Hits and a Bump
Glenn Hughes-Feel
UFO-Walk On Water
Stevie Salas/Colorcode-All That...And Born to Mack-Live in Japan
Deep Purple-In Rock re-issue

-END-

From: Paul Dudley <dudleyp@anl.anl.com.au>

The Who - Who's Next Remastered
Bodeans - Joe Dirt Car
Matthew Sweet - 100% Fun
Van Halen - Balance
Tea Party - Edges of Twilight

-END-

From: Damien DeSimone <glennpa@nic.com>

Glenn Hughes - FEEL
Talisman - LIFE
Brazen Abbot - LIVE AND LEARN
Takara - TASTE OF HEAVEN
Michael Sweet - REAL

-END-

From: ProgRock1@aol.com

Deus Ex Machina - De Republica (Italy)
Echolyn - As the World (Philadelphia, PA)
Leger De Main - The Concept of Our Reality (Erie, PA)
Richie Kotzen & Greg Howe - Tilt
Kenso - Inei No Fue (Live Vol.2) {Japan}

-END-

From: Colette DiBattista <ixduhvp@ECSUC.CTSTATEU.EDU>
Note: My name is Shawn Bartels not Colette DiBattista! I couldn't
change the name for some reason!

Glenn Hughes- Feel
Deep Purple- On The Wings Of A Russian Foxbat
Alanis Morissette- Jagged Little Pill
Dokken- Dysfunctional
Bon Jovi- These Days

-END-

From: rkline@execpc.com (Rick Kline)

Glenn Hughes: Feel
Todd Rundgren: The Individualist
Queen: Made In Heaven
Gary Moore: Blues For Greeny
Problem Child: Stories Of the Ape

-END-

From: kmitani@m.u-tokyo.ac.jp (Kohnosuke Mitani)

Glenn Hughes - FEEL
Deep Purple - ON THE WINGS OF A RUSSIAN FOXBAT
Dream Theater - A CHANGE OF SEASONS
TM Stevens Out Of Control - BOOM

-END-

From: Antonio <afyanez@unica.udc.es>

Black Sabbath: Forbidden
Deep Purple: In Rock, The Anniversary Edition
Van Halen: Balance
Los Suaves: Hay Alguien Ahi?
Dream Theater: A Change Of Seasons

-END-

From: William Jones <billj@polaris.mindport.net>
Talisman - Life
Glenn Hughes - Feel
Stevie Salas Colorcode - Back From The Living
Deep Purple - On The Wings Of A Russian Foxbat
Nicklebag - 12 Hits and a Bump/Van Halen - Balance (tie)

-END-

From: tdokken@sn.no (Terje Dokken)

Glenn Hughes - "Feel"

Bad Habit - "Revolution"
Harem Scarem - "Voice of Reason"
Rainbow - "Stranger in us all"
Kansas - "Freak of Nature"

-END-

From: "Lennart Hedenstr\vm" <lehe@lulea.trab.se>

Toto - Tambu
Glenn Hughes - Feel
Marcie Free - Tormented
Brazen Abbot - Live And Learn
Terence Trent D'Arby - Vibrator

-END-

From: Lewis Beard <lewis@oscar.teclink.net>

Michael Jackson - History (Past, Present and Future Book I)
King Crimson - Thrak
Rick Wakeman - Almost Live In Europe
Queen - At The BBC
TIE: Queen - Made In Heaven / Prince - The Gold Experience

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INFORMATION
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- The Editors.