



LYNYRD SKYNYRD

******MARCH 13TH 2006 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES' 'GIMME BACK MY BULLETS' 1976 ALBUM RE-RELEASED AS DELUXE CD/DVD BY UNIVERSAL ON MARCH 13TH******

The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame have confirmed that Southern US Hard Blues-Rock band Lynyrd Skynyrd will be among it's 2006 inductees at their 13th March 2006 Ceremony at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York, set for broadcast on VH1.

Regarding the nomination, Gary Rossington said, "I'm thankful to everyone involved. It's a great thing and a great day for all of us. I'm glad those we've lost - Ronnie, Allen, Leon, Steve and Cassie - will get the honour and recognition they deserve. I'm also thankful to Rickey Medlocke and Larry Junstrom, who were with us in the beginning and Rickey's even in the band with us now. Those two also deserve a piece of this honour. We're just all really thankful for this."

Billy Powell commented, "Obviously this proves that the music is here to stay and I feel I made a contribution to the industry. It certainly completes a lifetime accomplishment for me. I'm more excited to receive this honor especially on behalf of our brothers who can't be here, but are watching from above."

To coincide, Universal Music are set to release the band's 1976 'Gimme Back My Bullets' album as a Deluxe Edition CD with 6 bonus tracks, coupled with a stunning DVD of the band's seminal live concert recorded for BBC2's Old Grey Whistle Test at BBC Television Centre at Shepherds Bush in West London on November 11th 1975.

Bonus tracks on the album include four versions of album songs recorded live – 'Double Trouble' and 'I Got The Same Old Blues' at Cardiff Theatre in Wales on November 4th 1975, plus 'Gimme Back My Bullets' and 'Cry For The Bad Man' at Bill Graham's Winterland, San Francisco on March 7th 1976. An acoustic version of 'All I Can Do Is Write About It' and an alternative version of 'Double Trouble', recorded on September 8th 1975 at Record Plant Studios in Los Angeles, are also included.

Disc 2 is a 'must-have' live DVD of Lynyrd Skynyrd filmed at their peak, recorded two years before the tragic plane crash that killed vocalist Ronnie Van Zant, guitarist Steve Gaines and his sister Cassie (one of three backing singers) en route from Greenville, South Carolina to Baton Rouge, Louisiana in October 1977.

The DVD boasts live versions of 'Free Bird', 'Sweet Home Alabama', 'Every Mother's Son', 'I Ain't The One', 'Call Me The Breeze', 'I Got The Same Old Blues' and 'Double Trouble', filmed for the BBC in front of 100 of the band's most rabid fans at Lynyrd Skynyrd's only live TV concert appearance in Europe or America during the 1970's.

Skynyrd split up after the plane crash, but they reunited a decade later, with Ronnie's younger brother Johnny, an accomplished recording artist in his own right, taking the lead vocal slot. With more than 25 million albums sold to date, the band has become an American staple and a permanent fixture in rock n' roll history. In 2003 the band celebrated their 30th anniversary with the release of the studio album, "*Vicious Cycle*," which was augmented by a successful tour and the release of the DVD "*Lynyrd Skynyrd Lyve: The Vicious Cycle Tour*." One of the hardest working groups in music today, Lynyrd Skynyrd perform hundreds of shows each year.

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March 1st 2006



LYNYRD SKYNYRD

NEW 'CHRISTMAS TIME AGAIN' FESTIVE ALBUM OUT
NOVEMBER 20TH ON SPV THROUGH KOCH

Lynyrd Skynyrd, who wound up their sold out Europe 2000 tour at London's Hammersmith Apollo on June 20th, are about to surprise their fans with their new album "*Christmas Time Again*", a true-blooded Southern rock collection of classic Christmas songs featuring collaborations with 38 Special ('Hallelujah, It's Christmas Time') and the Charlie Daniels Band ('Santa Claus Is Coming Home').

On "*Christmas Time Again*", Skynyrd take the opportunity of the up-coming Christmas season to thank their supporters for their loyalty throughout their career that already spans over three decades. The Season of Goodwill seems perfect to take time out for friends and family and to celebrate Christmas musically like a true Skynyrd disciple should: traditionally, with a sense of humour, good food and booze, and with the right disc in the CD player. "*Christmas Time Again*" bridges the gap between Skynyrd's incredibly well received 1999 studio album "*Edge Of Forever*", this year's "*Then and Now*" compilation and their eagerly awaited next studio recording.

Skynyrd's name is an ironic reference to the band members' former PE teacher, Leonard Skinner, who took particular joy in harassing his long-haired pupils. Formed in Jacksonville, Florida, the band originally became famous with a line-up that comprised **Ronnie Van Zant** (vocals), **Gary Rossington** (guitar), **Allen Collins** (guitar), **Steve Gaines** (guitar), **Leon Wilkeson** (bass) and **Bob Burns** (drums). Discovered by famed Bob Dylan keyboardist **Al Kooper** in Atlanta in 1972, the band were signed for just \$9000 to Kooper's short-lived **Sounds Of The South** label. Their debut, Kooper-produced classic album, '**Pronounced Leh-Nerd Skin-Nerd**', was a Top 30 hit, and soon afterwards the group embarked on a tour supporting The Who. Their second album **SECOND HELPING** contained the 1974 (No. 8 hit single), '**Sweet Home Alabama**' - an amusing and heartfelt response to **Neil Young**, who had criticised the American South in songs such as 'Southern Man' and 'Alabama' - which propelled the group to superstar status and become the band's ultimate Southern anthem.

1975 saw the release of **NUTHIN' FANCY** and the group's first European tour with Golden Earring. The band's fourth LP, **GIMME BACK MY BULLETS** (1976) was their fourth album in succession to go gold in America, while in the UK their special guest slot at the Rolling Stones' Knebworth Festival in 1977 massively boosted their fast growing British following.

Then on **20 October 1977** tragedy struck when Ronnie Van Zant, Steve Gaines, his sister Cassie (one of three backing singers) and personal manager Dean Kilpatrick were all **killed in a plane crash** en route from Greenville, South Carolina to Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

That same month the band's new album, '**Street Survivors**' - the band's sixth (and their first album to be certified gold on release) - was withdrawn as the sleeve featured an unintentionally macabre design of the band surrounded by flames. After the plane crash, which also seriously injured surviving members Gary Rossington, Leon Wilkeson, Allen Collins, Billy Powell and Artemus Pyle, the thought of continuing felt like an impossibility.

SKYNYRD'S FIRST AND LAST came out in 1978 as a kind of obituary, containing previously unreleased material from the years 1970 - 1972. The Skynyrd compilation GOLD AND PLATINUM came out in 1980, followed by BEST OF THE REST, a collection of rare tracks and outtakes, two years later.

The survivors, (with the exception of drummer Artemus Pyle), some of whom were temporarily crippled - physically as well as emotionally - continued to work together in various permutations. The first of these, the Rossington-Collins Band, which incorporated guitarist and co-founder Gary Rossington, along with guitarist Allen Collins, bassist Leon Wilkeson, pianist Billy Powell and vocalist Dale Krantz, released two albums in the early 1980's and toured extensively.

Then, when Rossington-Collins broke up, Rossington and his wife, singer Dale Krantz, moved to Wyoming and recorded and performed as a duo while Collins started the Allen Collins band which included Wilkeson and Powell. "There might not have been a Lynyrd Skynyrd, but some of us never stopped working together", says Wilkeson. "I guess the 'reunion' was inevitable...".

Sure enough, 1987 - the tenth anniversary of the crash - brought the thought of a tribute concert to their minds. Once the decision to do it was made, the survivors invited Ronnie's younger brother Johnny, an accomplished recording artist in his own right, to take the lead vocal slot. "Originally we were just going to do one show," Johnny explains, "but then that became a week's worth of dates, then a full-fledged tour and then, thanks to the overwhelming support of both old and new fans, the next thing I know I'm in the band full time." It's been an emotional experience for the talented singer whose resemblance both vocally and visually to his older brother is obvious. "In the beginning I was scared", Johnny admits, "but over the years I've come to peace with it and I think Ronnie's proud of what we're doing today."

The band returned to the studio and recorded LYNYRD SKYNYRD 1991, followed with THE LAST REBEL two years later, and the successful unplugged opus ENDANGERED SPECIES in 1994. In autumn 1997, twenty years after the fatal crash, Skynyrd released a studio album titled TWENTY, in tribute to their late colleagues and friends and set off on a huge world tour, totally selling out the UK leg, which culminated with a triumphant Albert Hall show in London. The band's last studio album, EDGE OF FOREVER, was produced by Ron Nevison, whose CV includes Led Zeppelin, The Who, Bad Company, UFO and Heart among many others, in a castle in Franklin Tennessee.

In putting together the 2000 version of the band, Rossington, Van Zant, Wilkeson and Powell went to some of American rock's finest musicians around; former Blackfoot founder/guitarist Rickey Medlocke, guitarist Hughie Tomasson from the Outlaws and former Damn Yankees drummer Michael Cartellone. The line-up is completed by background vocalists Dale Krantz-Rossington and Carol Chase.

Sanity Claus :- Roland Hyams on 020 8677 8466 or 020 8769 6713.

October 10th 2000



LYNYRD SKYNYRD

GARY ROSSINGTON - Guitars
JOHNNY VAN ZANT - Lead Vocals
RICKEY MEDLOCKE – Guitars and Back-up Vocals
HUGHIE THOMASSON – Guitars and Back-up Vocals
LEON WILKESON - Bass
MICHAEL CARTELLONE - Drums and Percussion
BILLY POWELL- Keyboards
DALE KRANTZ - ROSSINGTON - Back-up Vocals
CAROL CHASE - Back-up Vocals

Lynyrd Skynyrd, who headline the Hammersmith Apollo on June 20th, release a mid – price ‘Then And Now’ compilation of tracks taken from their three CMC / SPV albums, ‘Lyve From Steel Town’, ‘Twenty’ and ‘Edge Of Forever’, on July 3rd through Koch Distribution.

Designed as an introduction to Lynyrd Skynyrd, ‘Then And Now’ includes studio tracks from the current band’s two recent studio albums, ‘Twenty’ (1997) and ‘Edge Of Forever’ (1999) along with versions of classic cuts such as ‘Freebird’ recorded live by the latest line- up at the Star Lake Amphitheatre July 15th 1997.

Now and Then :- Roland Hyams on 020 8677 8466.

June 19th 2000.

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