

Jeff Liberman - Stream Of Consciousness (2020)

Written by bluesever (Bogdan Marszałkowski)

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1. *All the Love* - 3:28 2. *I'm a Man* - 2:58 3. *Into the Night* - 4:33 4. *Nothing Will Be Here* - 2:53 5. *A Hard Headed Woman* - 3:33 6. *3AM* - 4:36 7. *There Is a Place* - 4:21 8. *A Brand New Day* - 5:30 9. *Stream of Consciousness* - 4:59 10. *Unyielding* - 2:51 11. *I Believe* - 4:19 12. *How Much I Love You* - 3:04 13. *Everything You Need* - 3:48 14. *Fun* - 2:15 15. *The Sky Was Very Blue* - 3:56

Chicago born Jeff Liberman is a guitar player in the best tradition of '70s guitar Gods like Hendrix, Trower, Clapton or Zappa. The perfect mix between virtuosity and feeling with a gift for brilliant songwriting. Between 1975 and 1978, Liberman self-released three albums on his own Librah label which were some of the first private pressings to gain recognition amongst psych collectors in the '80s. Guerssen reissued Jeffery Liberman, Solitude Within and Synergy.

Jeff Liberman was born in South Side of Chicago in 1954. Coming from a place where Blues and Jazz music has a strong scene, he got inspired by a few local musicians, including Charley Wolfer. "He was great and taught me such songs as 'Suzy Q' by Creedence and 'In-A-Gadda-Da-Vida' by Iron Butterfly. Just a great player. Other influences are Phil Upchurch, Leo Pucinakis and Ron Seroggin."

His guitar playing is mostly based in Jazz, Rock and Blues music. Jeff was spending many hours practising Blues and Jazz scales. He likes to integrate all of them into his own phrasing style. When asked about his impressive and unique guitar style he replied that he really tries to keep it simple but look for unique phrasing. "Playing fast can be cool at times, but often loses impact as it's hard to comprehend the statement. The reason greats like Clapton and B.B. King are so classic, is because of their coherent phrasing." He was influenced by many but especially by Clapton and Zappa. "My tone is very important to me. Probably born out of Clapton's tone when he played with Cream. And Frank Zappa's 'Overnight Sensation' album".

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Liberman already wrote his first song when he was 12 years old and began playing guitar only a year later. "I wrote a song about Batman and Robin but it was never recorded."

His debut album came out in 1975. "When I first went to PS Recording Studio in Chicago, I called in the best of musicians that I could to play on my songs. Phil Upchurch was one of those people. Phil was a great guitarist, he kind of befriended me and certainly went on to be one of the great guitarists in the Jazz field. Phil played Bass on my first album. Tom Radke played Drums. Tom had been playing with such bands as Uriah Heep."

The album was produced by Paul Serrano, who has been working with Ramsey Lewis and Earth, Wind & Fire. "Paul tolerated me. He was always kind and enabled me to record stuff on a shoestring budget. He was a great trumpet player and philosopher."

Liberman used Gibson ES 341, Gibson L65, Martin D35 Acoustic. Pignose and Ampeg. "It was recorded in 3 hour sessions at a time. Tight budget, great players. ---psychedelicbabymag.com

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