

Queen - Morumbi Stadium 1981

Written by bluesever

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Sao Paulo, Brazil, Morumbi Stadium - March 20th, 1981 01 - *Opening* 02 - *We Will Rock You* 03 - *Let Me Entertain You* 04 - *Play The Game* 05 - *Somebody To Love* 06 - *Save Me* 07 - *Now I'm Here* 08 - *Dragon Attack* 09 - *Now I'm Here [Reprise]* 10 - *Fat Bottomed Girs* 11 - *Love Of My Life* 12 - *Flash* 13 - *The Hero* 14 - *Crazy Little Thing Called Love* 15 - *Bohemian Rhapsody* 16 - *Tie Your Mother Down* 17 - *Another One Bites The Dust* 18 - *Sheer Heart Attack* 19 - *We Will Rock You* 20 - *We Are The Champions* 21 - *God Save The Queen*

"Morumbi Stadium" is a nickname for the venue, as Morumbi is a small district of São Paulo.

The shows in São Paulo are among the most important of Queen's career. They play to 131,000 people tonight and another 120,000 tomorrow night, the largest paying audiences ever to see Queen, and the largest paying audiences for a single band at the time. When the Rio show was cancelled, this extra night in São Paulo was booked, and it sold out very quickly.

The band are interviewed on TV before the show. Just as the host, Eron Domingues, sits down beside Freddie, Mr. Mercury quips, "Sit on my lap." After being asked how he feels about playing for this many people, Freddie, with his usual quick wit, replies, "I haven't done it yet!" He then says the band are looking forward to it, and hopes everyone has a good time.

The concert was then broadcast live on TV. Regrettably, even the best copies of the video aren't anything to write home about, because the quality of Brazilian TV wasn't great in the early 80s. The show was broadcast at least a couple more times later in the year. The first rebroadcast was a week after the show at the same time, and it is the only known broadcast of

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the complete show, audio or video, without any of the voice-overs. The next rebroadcast was a few months later, a 45-minute version with a red "Queen Special" shown at the beginning and before commercial breaks - and with many different camera angles. Thanks to Marcos Napier for all the details on the various versions.

It is priceless footage, as it shows Freddie Mercury part way through Love Of My Life standing and clapping in sheer amazement, after having witnessed this many people who don't understand English sing his song perfectly without him.

Freddie has rested his voice and sounds fantastic overall tonight. The rest the band are in fine shape as well, with the only slight exception of Brian taking a couple bars to settle into the guitar solo in Somebody To Love. But it is a small blemish on an otherwise perfect night of epic proportions.

In one of the video rebroadcasts, footage of the audience was copied and pasted around (for lack of a better term), sometimes with humorous results. For example, footage of an audience member playing air guitar during the fast We Will Rock You is shown again during the ballad of the evening, Love Of My Life. ---queenlive.ca

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