

Thin Lizzy - China Town [Deluxe Edition] (2011)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 05 January 2012 09:42 - Last Updated Friday, 15 February 2019 20:59

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Disc One 1. *We Will Be Strong* 2. *Chinatown* 3. *Sweetheart* [play](#) 4. *Sugar Blues* 5. *Killer On The Loose* 6. *Having A Good Time* 7. *Genocide* 8. *Didn't I* 9. *Hey You*

Disc Two

1. *Don't Play Around [Single Version]* 2. *We Will Be Strong [Single Version]* 3. *Sugar Blues [Live At City Hall, Cork, 1980]* 4. *Whisky In The Jar [Live At City Hall, Cork, 1980]* 5. *Are You Ready [Live At RDS Hall, Dublin, 1980]* 6. *Chinatown [Live At RDS Hall, Dublin, 1980]* 7. *Got To Give It Up [Live At RDS Hall, Dublin, 1980]* 8. *Dear Miss Lonely Hearts [Live At RDS Hall, Dublin, 1980]* 9. *Killer On The Loose [Live At Hammersmith Odeon, 1981]* 10. *Chinatown [Edited Version]*

[play](#)

11. *Chinatown [Soundcheck, Cork, 1980]* 12. *Don't Play Around [Soundcheck, Hammersmith, 1980]* 13. *Sweetheart [Soundcheck, Hammersmith, 1980]* 14. *Didn't I [Soundcheck, Cork, 1980]* 15. *Hey You [Soundcheck, Cork, 1980]*

Phil Lynott - Vocals, Bass, Keyboards Scott Gorham - Guitars, Vocals (backing) Snowy White - Guitars Brian Downey - Drums

Thanks again Amazon! I recently collected all the Thin Lizzy Deluxe Editions. Eventually, I'll review them all. Today, I'm doing one of the lesser known albums, 1980's Chinatown.

You know, it's funny how perspective changes. When I first got this album a few years back, "Sugar Blues" was my least favourite track. Now, it's my favourite. Just listen to that Snowy White guitar solo with headphones on, and dig into that driving rhythm. Incredible.

In general, I enjoy Chinatown a lot more now. There are some strikingly great Thin Lizzy tunes on here, albeit a bit less complex than previous albums. "Killer On The Loose" remains a great

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heavy metal song with brilliant soloing courtesy of Gorham. "We Will Be Strong", the slightly understated opener, is also a personal favourite. It may not be loaded to the gills with familiar songs, but Chinatown is still a fine Lizzy platter.

Another winner is "Genocide (The Killing of the Buffalo)". Some might wonder what right an Irish man has to criticize what the white American did to his land. I think it's a pretty straightforward and clear-cut position. It's also a great song, riffy and solid.

"Having A Good Time" is an enjoyable romp (Phil's cheerleading being infectious) with yet another Snowy solo that just sails. It just rides the song beautifully and elevates the whole thing. Personally, I think Snowy's work with Thin Lizzy has been among the most interesting. He may not have been the "right" guy for Lizzy (discuss!) but his work cannot be dismissed. As an interesting bluesy sideroad, the Snowy White era of Thin Lizzy is as compelling as the previous eras.

This deluxe edition adds a bonus disc of extra goodies that is well worth the price. (At press time, selling for about \$17 on Amazon.ca, although I paid \$32.50 CAD when it was just out.) The B-side "Don't Play Around" is stellar. While the live take of "Sugar Blues" is previously available on the Thin Lizzy box set (smoking solo by the way), "Whiskey In The Jar" is a really interesting version. Performed as a trio by Phil Lynott, Brian Downey and Midge Ure (apparently because Snowy and Scott don't know the song?), it's a very different, simplified version of the song but no less catchy.

As with all Thin Lizzy deluxe editions, there's an extensive booklet with photos, facts, figures, interviews, and so on. I enjoy reading along as I listen. ---mikeladano.com

Motyw przewodni zamyka się jednak w grafice, tytule i numerze tytułowym, bo piosenki Thin Lizzy jak zawsze traktują o smutkach i uciechach życia i prezentują szeroką perspektywę muzycznych nastrojów. Nie brak tu i przebojów, którymi są „Killer On The Loose”, gdzie oprócz melodyjnych wokali i złowrogich monologów, jest mnóstwo ostrego, rockowego grania i przede wszystkim „Genocide”, który jest najbardziej porywającym kawałkiem na płycie: „There are people round here that are right, there are people round here that like to sleep at night.”

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Phil Lynott wykazuje się tu swoim mistrzostwem wokalnym, ale nie tylko tu. Jak zawsze potrafi przeprowadzić słuchacza przez sinusoidę nastrojów, od wesołego i pełnego wolności „Having A Good Time”, przez sentymentalne „We Will Be Strong” i „Hey You”, aż do łagodnego i tęsknego „Didn't I”.

Pisząc o Thin Lizzy nie sposób nie wspomnieć o specyficznym stylu grania tego zespołu. Na pierwszy rzut ucha ta muzyka wcale nie jest mocna. Również przez ten liryczny głos, sprawiają wrażenie, jakby otaczała ich taka aura wzruszającej łagodności. Jednak wchodząc głębiej w te piosenki, można odkryć w nich niesamowite pokłady rockowej ekspresji i instrumentalnego rzemiosła. Muzyka Thin Lizzy płynie pięknym, melodyjnym nurtem, ubarwionym wartkimi riffami i wirami solówek, wyłaniających się pośród meandrów nostalgii i rozlewisk spokoju. Wszystko to sprawia, że „Chinatown” jest kolejną perełką i pełnym emocji dziełem tego wyjątkowego zespołu. --- WUJAS, darkplanet.pl

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