

The Electric Prunes - Just Good Old Rock And Roll (1969/2013)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 18 May 2016 16:05 - Last Updated Tuesday, 06 February 2018 15:59

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01. Sell 02. 14 Year Old Funk 03. Love Grows 04. So Many People To Tell 05. Finders Keepers, Losers Weepers 06. Giant Sunhorse 07. Violent Rose 08. Thorjon 09. Silver Passion Mine 10. Tracks 11. Sing To Me Ron Morgan - guitar Mark Kincaid - guitar, backing vocals John Herron - organ Brett Wade - bass, backing vocals, flute Dick Whetstone - drums, lead vocals

Just Good Old Rock and Roll by the Electric Prunes has an ominous "the new improved" before their name on the cover of this effort, and despite original producer Dave Hassinger's contributions, it fails to come anywhere near the greatness of "I Had Too Much to Dream Last Night." A good tune like "So Many People to Tell" is offset by the difficult "Giant Sunhorse," which destroys any momentum created by the aforementioned best track on the disc, much like a double play in a tight baseball game. The boring riff goes nowhere and it is a disappointing way to lead off side two, when the first five songs show some bit of promise. If Stephen Stills fronting Country Joe & the Fish by way of the Grateful Dead with lackluster material is your cup of tea, side two descends into that dysfunctional morass, a band sliding sideways and not living up to the psychedelic power their first big hit boasted. If you ever wondered what you didn't like about Rare Earth, it might be that the drummer was doing the singing. Dick Whetstone has "drums and lead vocals" under his name and there you go. None of the original band members from the first two discs or the live album from 1967 are here. Dave Hassinger is like Maurice Starr trying to put together another New Kids on the Block with new faces. This is the Electric Prunes in name only, and if you place it next to "I Had Too Much to Dream Last Night," this album gives Milli Vanilli credibility. ---Joe Viglione, Rovi

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