

Boulevard - What's up - 2012 reissue

Written by Gino

Friday, 20 April 2012 23:48 - Last Updated Monday, 23 April 2012 17:42



Tracks:

01. Solid As A Rock
02. Fallen Angel
03. On The Line,
04. Give Me Love
05. Surrender
06. I'm What You Need
07. Heart Of A Stranger
08. Running
09. Still On My
10. Bad Lover
11. Millions Of Faces

Bonus tracks:

12. On The Line (Demo)
- 13 Still On My Way (Demo)
- 14 Running (Demo)

Back in the day Swedish group Boulevard, who were based out of Gothenburg, was regarded as a talented and extremely promising outfit on the Melodic Hard Rock scene. Unfortunately the A&R department of their record label SATELIT RECORDS didn't share that vision and had no serious interest in pushing the guys.

In 1987, singer Roy El Hoshy, guitarists Lennart Widegren and Dick Börtner, bassist Mikael Magnusson and drummer Morgan Pettersson released their first single „One The Line/ Still On The Way“, followed a bit later by the debut “What’s Up”. The earlier mentioned single was also given a second lease on life with new and improved artwork but none of these releases took the band to the next level. And like so many other promising newcomers BOULEVARD split up.

All this comes from the info that archive label Yesterrock provided with the CD that is currently making its spins in my CD player but to be honest I have to say that much of it is quite far away from that actual truth.

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Upon hearing the name Boulevard I wrongly assumed that it was the excellent AOR outfit from Canada but it turned out to be more of a weak version of Bad Habit or Fate.

That being said I have to admit to really liking "Runnin'" (great melodie and solo) but this alone isn't worth the price of admission.

The main issue in here is the lead vocalist...this CD could have been so much better without Roy.

Yes, "Solid As A Rock" rocks, "Fallen Angel" is a more or less fine AORish track, "Surrender" & "I'm What You Need" are quite good and "Heart Of A Stranger" is a cool song but overall this is an overhyped CD not worth adding to your collection !

Line up:

Roy El Hoshi (Vocals)

Dick Börtner (Guitar)

Lennart Widegren (Guitar)

Mikael Magnusson (Bass)....most recently passed away

Morgan Pettersson (Drums)