



Recording a live album was something I had in mind for a very long time. When I started out playing guitar in the early nineties, aged fourteen, I remember mostly preferring live records over studio albums because of the more pure and raw vibe. There's just something to it hearing a band crashing and burning and giving it's all in the heat of the moment. Playing live is something I have lived for since I did my very first gig on the 10th of December, 1992.

The excitement of playing my guitar on stage with a rockin' band had me sold on the spot. The spark that set the flame kicked in big time. Right there and then I knew exactly what I wanted to do and that's what I've been doing ever since. After having recorded nine original studio albums in various styles of music and done literally thousands of gigs, I still hadn't recorded an official live album. When it came to celebrating my "25 years on stage" with a RHB-tour across the Netherlands the idea of capturing a show emerged again. Along the way I started thinking about a place where I liked the sound the most. Enter Poppodium Bolwerk in a place called Sneek. We actually played that venue a couple of times before and I was always very pleased by its amazing sound and vibe.

On September 30th, 2017 and January 27th, 2018 technician Robin Schingenga recorded both shows. The funny thing is that he didn't tell us he had recorded the first show until afterwards. Well, let me tell you; that's probably the best way to capture a real live band. Since we were unaware, we felt completely free and took all the musical risks we might not have taken if we had known the "red light" was on. Well... On the other hand; you never know, but I'm glad that it's all here - a double live album, featuring my brother Eric on heavy artillery, Mike's pounding bass and the stunning vocals of Lucas. No overdubs, no click track, no repairs, just a steaming hot Rock 'n Roll band for your listening pleasure!

Ruben Hoeke - April 2018

PERSQUOTES

- 'Hoeke would kick ass among the best rockbands in the world! A worldclass starplayer.' (**Lust for Life**)
- 'One of todays leading Dutch guitarplayers.' (**Platomania**)
- 'His solo parts are raw, energetic and dirty. Love it!' (**OOR**)
- 'Steaming hot Rock & Roll!' (**Music Maker**)
- 'His guitar skill is of international stature. Time and time again he proofs to be the best blues- rock guitarist in the Benelux and perhaps even across the border' (**Bluesmagazine**)

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