

POWERPLAY

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Back after a seven year gap with glorious new album 'V' but will they tour?

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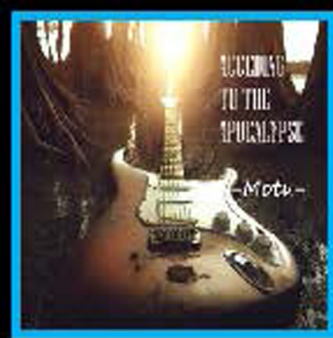


THE MUSIC IS OUT THERE

By Nicky Baldrian



Band: Motu
Album Title: Acceding To The Apocalypse
Label: MOTU Records
Genre: Americana/Rock



Description:
 "Acceding To The Apocalypse" is the 23rd Official Album from Long Island's MOTU. It is an ambitious theme album with the 4-pc band of Dr Richard Michelson (MOTU), Dee Michelson, Ed Modzel, and Rich Fry. The theme of the album is mankind's propensity for self-destruction which is explored with 10 new MOTU original songs that pack an energetic punch in

the genres of American-Roots, Blues, Rock, and Folk with multiple vocal harmonies.
Influences: Neil Young, John Hiatt, The Beatles, Bob Dylan, Muddy Waters, CSN, Allman Brothers, John McLaughlin, Jeff Beck

Band Line-Up:
 Dee Michelson - Vocals
 Rich Fry - Vocals Electric and Acoustic Guitars
 Ed Modzel - Drums
 MOTU Dr Rich - Vocals, Slide Dobro, Electric and Acoustic Guitars, Keyboards, Harmonica, Bass, and Pedal Steel Guitar

Hailing from Long Island, New York, USA, we find Americana influenced Rockers **MOTU**. The quarter have an excellent new ten track album out now called 'Acceding To The Apocalypse' which

clocks in at around forty-two minutes long and is the bands twenty-third release. Multi-discipline singer-songwriter/band leader Dr Richard Michelson (stage name: MOTU which is Music Of The Universe) is best known for his ability to play any string instrument with expertise as well as being a prolific poet and master engineer. The album opens up with the catchy 'The Cost', this song is sleek with a southern soothing bluesy Americana vibe. MOTU Dr Rich's vocals remind me of Neil Young, crossed with Mark Knopfler and Steve Earle. 'Love Is All We Need' toys around with a heavier guitar sound and is quite groove based with a solid live feel. It is a solid smouldering blues track, catchy with superb vocals from Dee Michelson. 'Too Much' is upbeat and catchy, slightly more rounded with an organic feel coupled with fab husky vocals from MOTU Dr Rich.

'When Your Smile Has Left The Room' flows with a lovely melodic Americana vibe, in some way this track reminds me of Bob Dylan and Alison Krauss thanks to both Rich and Michelson's combined vocals, in fact there is charm around this song that has that Robert Plant/Alison Krauss country folk blues vibe. Rich vocally sounds fabulous, husky, rustic, and happy, this is one of the best songs on the album. The guys should try and get themselves on the popular Jools Holland show over here, I am sure he would love this album. One of my favourite songs on the album. 'A Test Of Our Love' flows with a slick up-beat vibe, with rustic husky vocals and has that Mark Knopfler song/writing vibe. The guitar is also quite electric with cool male and female vocals. The quirky 'You're Just A Pile Of Crap' is another up-tempo catchy track, a little in the vein of Seasick Steve with fine ZZ Top style riffs, and fine harmonica playing, cool fun barroom honky tonk song. 'I'm Looking For Answers' is about as heavy and groove based as the album gets, this song is infectious as hell with both singers sounding amazing together against slick electric guitar work and smooth musicianship from the rest of the band, this is a superb song, I bet this one smokes live, there is something about it that just pulls you in. 'I Can't Be Denied' goes for an old school blues vibe complete with cool harmonica playing. It's a fun up-beat song with fabulous soulful grooves that will get you hooked from the get-go, there is a Chris Rea vibe here, in fact vocally MOTU Dr Rich is

similar on many levels to Rea. Next up is the instrumental 'Acceding To The Apocalypse' has that classic 'Keep On Running' vibe, up-tempo catchy blues rock/pop vibe with outstanding guitar solo. Ending the album is 'History Repeats Itself', a loose acoustic based song, it feels a darker and melodic a 'la 'House of the Rising Sun' with fantastic story telling lyrics. 'Acceding To The Apocalypse' is a superb and slick album with fab musicianship and vocals, the production sound is crisp and clear, and the songs get under your skin. Ensure you check this out, but stick with the songs for full enjoyment, don't skip them folks as you will miss the magic happening.
Web and Social Media Links:
<https://www.motu.net/>
<https://www.facebook.com/MOTURecords/>
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