

AC/DC



Facsimile of original
Australian LP cover

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AC/DC



HIGHWAY TO HELL

When *Highway To Hell* was released in 1979, a much wider audience felt the power of AC/DC, especially in mainstream America, where the LP became the band's biggest seller. As fate would have it, though, *Highway To Hell* would also be the final AC/DC record with intemperate lead vocalist Bon Scott, who died tragically less than a year later.

High-profile English rock producer Eddie Kramer was originally tapped for the project. But during the early stages, AC/DC and Kramer couldn't reach a meeting of the minds about recording methods. A relative novice, "70s 'new wave' producer Robert John 'Mutt' Lange, was soon recruited, and the ultimate success of *Highway To Hell* led to it being the first of three consecutive major AC/DC long players produced by Lange.

AC/DC's organic attack, raw and lo-fi, sometimes still fueled by *Highway To Hell*, but Lange added a bit of spit and polish, bringing the rock-range decibels a bit, which was most evident in Phil Rudd's drum sound. Lange's primary contribution, however, was furnishing more presence to both Bon Scott's lead vocals and the hearty "gang" choruses sung by the band guitarist Malcolm Young and bassist Cliff Williams.



AC/DC

EUROPEAN TOUR

November/December 1979

SCHEDULE

November	Location	Support	Notes
21	London	Black Sabbath	Support
22	London	Black Sabbath	Support
23	London	Black Sabbath	Support
24	London	Black Sabbath	Support
25	London	Black Sabbath	Support
26	London	Black Sabbath	Support
27	London	Black Sabbath	Support
28	London	Black Sabbath	Support
29	London	Black Sabbath	Support
30	London	Black Sabbath	Support
1	London	Black Sabbath	Support
2	London	Black Sabbath	Support
3	London	Black Sabbath	Support
4	London	Black Sabbath	Support
5	London	Black Sabbath	Support
6	London	Black Sabbath	Support
7	London	Black Sabbath	Support
8	London	Black Sabbath	Support
9	London	Black Sabbath	Support
10	London	Black Sabbath	Support
11	London	Black Sabbath	Support
12	London	Black Sabbath	Support
13	London	Black Sabbath	Support
14	London	Black Sabbath	Support
15	London	Black Sabbath	Support
16	London	Black Sabbath	Support
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26	London	Black Sabbath	Support
27	London	Black Sabbath	Support
28	London	Black Sabbath	Support
29	London	Black Sabbath	Support
30	London	Black Sabbath	Support



"Shot Down in Flames," is this day an overpowering concert staple, captured the last front man at his best. Bon's sly phrasing and subjective lyrics vicariously transport the listener into the scorned advances of a bloke "out on the town, lookin' for a woman, gotta give me good love." Galvanizing lead guitarist and performer Angus Young crowns this quite amazing track with a feet-fired solo, as he does on so many other indelible AC/DC songs.

"If You Want Blood (You've Got It)," a frenetic rocker, and the ruddy "Touch Too Much" (released as the album's second single after the title track) are both AC/DC jewels that build to exclamationary closing chapters. When Bon sings "If you want blood," followed by Mal and Cliff's "you've got it," the tune really comes to a head. With "Touch Too Much," the robust, isolated refrain transforms a few voices into a throng, a nice "Mud" Lange production stroke. Bon AC/DC is rapidly confirming its status as one of Britain's top groups.

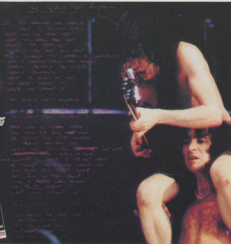
also drops one of his wittiest puns to pulchritude." She had the body of Venus, with arms."

The dark imagery of "Nightcrawler" embodies slow-drag blues, much like the Rolling Stones' "Midnight Rambler," but in a much heavier, sabbily humorous manner. Bon's foreboding lyrics are perfectly complemented by Angus' menacing, emotive solos. Immediately after the song ends, however, Bon breaks the sinister spell, closing the album with the out-of-character hit, "Shambhoo nano-nano," an "extraterrestrial" phrase from actor/comedian Robin Williams' TV show "Mork and Minky."

With its manic tempo shifts, "Walk All Over You" is reminiscent AC/DC's a full-throated romp paced by the innate heavy swing of Malcolm Young's incomparable rhythm guitar playing. As the song pushes past the red line, Angus' virtuosic runs melt notes as Bon keeps pace with a melodic rant. In the concert movie "Let There Be Rock," filmed during the subsequent Highway To Hell tour, a live version of "Walk All Over You" accompanied a scene in which drummer Phil Rudd maneuvered a Porsche over a frozen French airfield. Enough said.

"Love Hungry Man" is an effective breath catcher, linking "If You Want Blood (You've Got It)" and "Nightcrawler." "Get It Hot" is a top-notch dance tune - one can hoof to almost any AC/DC song - the band pulled out of the hat and played in concert some 28 years after Highway To Hell was recorded. "Beating Around The Bush" - loosely grounded in a guitar riff similar to the '60s song "Oh Well" by the original Fleetwood Mac - is another chestnut that seduces the listener with Bon's lyrical pearls only to have the instrumental juggernaut that is AC/DC strong you happily into submission. Which in a random way brings us to the

MORE SONGS ABOUT HUMPING AND SOOZE



1 HIGHWAY TO HELL

2 GIRLS GOT RHYTHM

3 WALK ALL OVER YOU

4 TOUCH TOO MUCH

5 BEATING AROUND THE BUSH

6 SHOT DOWN IN FLAMES

7 GET IT HOT

8 IF YOU WANT BLOOD (You've Got It)

9 LOVE HUNGRY MAN

10 NIGHT PROWLER

PRODUCED BY ROBERT JARVIS "MUTT" LANGE

All titles A. Young - M. Young - B. Scott
Albums published by E. Albert & Son (Pty) Ltd

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Mixed at Basing Street Studios, London • Mixing Engineer: Tony Platt
Assistant Engineer: Kevin Doolittle

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Paul Carey: London Features: page 8; Steve Jones (Star File): pages 9 (right), 10; Bruce Pomeroy: page 11 (bottom left);
Neil O'Rourke: page 11 (top & bottom right); Bob Almond (Star File): page 12 (right); Larry Hales (Star File):
1 & 2; Bob Almond (Star File): 1 & 2; Photos courtesy of Albert Productions: page 12 (left)

Additional artwork courtesy: Albert Productions and Jonnal Davies

This CD features an image of a cassette with its banding, and will work as a tape in a walk-
man cassette player, radio, phone and more at www.alden.com.au

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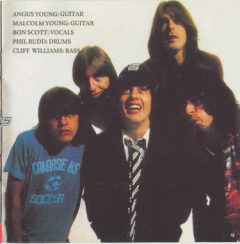
ANGUS YOUNG: GUITAR

MALCOLM YOUNG: GUITAR

BON SCOTT: VOCALS

PHIL RUDD: DRUMS

CLIFF WILLIAMS: BASS



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