



A N A N T H O L O G Y

ZACHTZ





- 1 **ANGEL (THEME)** 1:34
(Brandt/Giuffria) (BMI)
- 2 **TOWER** 6:56
(Giuffria/Meadows/DiMino) (BMI)
- 3 **ON & ON** 4:19
(Giuffria/DiMino/Meadows/Jones) (BMI)
- 4 **ROCK & ROLLERS** 3:59
(Giuffria/Meadows/DiMino) (BMI)
- 5 **FEELIN' RIGHT** 4:42
(Giuffria/Meadows/DiMino) (BMI)
- 6 **ANYWAY YOU WANT IT** 2:31
(Meadows/DiMino) (BMI)
- 7 **CAN YOU FEEL IT** 4:41
(Meadows/Giuffria/DiMino) (BMI)
- 8 **WHITE LIGHTNING** 4:39
(Meadows/Morman) (BMI)
- 9 **DON'T LEAVE ME LONELY** 4:00
(Brandt/DiMino) (BMI)
- 10 **AIN'T GONNA EAT OUT MY HEART
ANYMORE** 2:50
(Sawyer/Burton) (BMI)
- 11 **GOT LOVE IF YOU WANT IT** 4:28
(Meadows/Giuffria/DiMino) (BMI)
- 12 **FLYING WITH BROKEN WINGS
(WITHOUT YOU)** 3:32
(Meadows/Giuffria/DiMino) (BMI)
- 13 **THE WINTER SONG** 3:49
(Meadows/Giuffria/DiMino) (BMI)
- 14 **DON'T TAKE YOUR LOVE** 3:31
(Giuffria/DiMino) (ASCAP)
- 15 **BAD TIME** 3:41
(Giuffria/DiMino) (ASCAP)
- 16 **WALK AWAY RENEE** 2:55
(Brown/Calilli/Sansome) (BMI)
- 17 **I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE AGAIN** 3:33
(Giuffria) (ASCAP)
- 18 **WILD AND HOT** 3:00
(Meadows) (ASCAP)
- 19 **20TH CENTURY FOXES** 3:45
(DiMino/Giuffria) (ASCAP)
- 20 **THE CHRISTMAS SONG** 4:02
(Meadows/Giuffria/DiMino) (BMI)

WHEN I was approached to write these liner notes I was overjoyed — not because I was being paid a tidy sum for my efforts but rather that, at last, ANGEL's material was finally being made available on compact disc. Over the years there have been countless rumours of reissues and compilations; including a supposed discovery of a wealth of previously unheard of material gathering dust in PolyGram's vaults beyond an interesting cover of *Walk Away Renee* unearthed in the last six or seven years. But for the time being, thank the gods of rock 'n' roll that at least some ANGELic greatness has finally found it's way onto a silver disc.

Just why ANGEL failed to break the world wide open with their highly crafted songs and stage show, rivalled only by the flame throwing antics of Casablanca labelmates Kiss, has got to go down as one of the biggest mysteries in Heavy Metal history. Had there been MTV back in the seventies, I'm sure that ANGEL, a band way ahead of its time, would have been *massive*.

It was actually Kiss' Gene Simmons who discovered the band in a Washington, DC, club in 1975. Legend has it Simmons called Casablanca president Neil Bogart at three in the morning insisting that ANGEL be snapped up.

For guitarist Edwin Lionel Meadows, commonly known by his childhood nickname of Punky, signing a record deal was nothing new. As a member of the DC-based Cherry People he'd recorded an album for Heritage Records in the late sixties, then joined Bux (featuring bassist Mickey Jones). Bux recorded an album for Capitol that wouldn't actually see the light of day until ANGEL were two albums into their career and had been voted Best New Band by the readership of *Circus* magazine in 1976. St. Louis born keyboard player Gregg Giuffria had also recorded with Capitol Records as a member of David And The Giants, a band that also featured Tommy Aldridge on drums. The DC scene being as incestuous as any local rock circuit, it was somewhat inevitable that Meadows, Jones and Giuffria should meet and form a band together. They subsequently persuaded drummer Barry Brandt and Boston-born vocalist Frank DiMino to join them.

ANGEL's eponymous debut album emerged in October 1975. Produced by Derek Lawrence and Big Jim Sullivan, it's nothing short of a masterpiece. With a sound that combined elements of Deep Purple, Yes, Genesis and a touch of the Beatles, **Angel** is full of outrageously grand pomp rock — nowhere more so than the majestic opener *Tower*.

The band's second album, **Helluva Band**, surfaced a year later. Again produced by Derek Lawrence and Big Jim Sullivan, it was a heavier, more rock oriented production.

Big things were expected of the band in 1977. A fan base had been established thanks to constant touring, and Casablanca Records were looking ahead to bigger sales. Eddie Kramer, fresh from his success with Kiss, was brought in to produce the band's third album. The resulting album, **On Earth As It Is In Heaven**, featured *White Lightning*, a reworking of an old Bux song, in retrospect can be described as an experimental and, at best, transitional album.

Eddie Leonetti was handed the ropes to **White Hot** in the fall of 1977 by which time Mickey Jones had left and was replaced by Felix Robinson. To Leonetti's credit the sound was much glossier, the production sounding bigger and more modern. **White Hot** was released in January 1978 and was preceded by the Christmas single, *The Winter Song*. ANGEL spent the next nine or ten months on tour with the intention of releasing a double live package at the end of it all.

Sinful appeared in the spring of 1979 after a good deal of wrangling over the original cover art and album title (**Bad Publicity**). Often regarded as ANGEL's definitive work, **Sinful** was another magical Leonetti produced affair.

The double live album, **Live Without A Net**, finally released in 1980, proved to be the fitting epitaph for the band — a band who never failed to deliver on the live front. Utterly frustrated, the band disbanded in 1981. The members of ANGEL have been involved in various projects; most notable has been Gregg Giuffria's success with Giuffria and House of Lords.

In their time, ANGEL gave rock 'n' roll their best. This collection represents a selection of their best work. It's a legacy to be mighty proud of.

— Dave Reynolds, *Kerrang!*

FRANK DIMINO lead vocals and backing vocals
PUNKY MEADOWS lead guitars and acoustic guitars
GREGG GIUFFRIA organ, piano, synthesizers, clavinet,
harpichord, string ensemble and mellotron
MICKEY JONES bass on tracks 1-8
FELIX ROBINSON bass and backing vocals on
tracks 9-20
BARRY BRANDT drums, percussion and backing
vocals

THE WINTER SONG and THE CHRISTMAS SONG feature
THE CALIFORNIA BOYS CHOIR

ANGEL (THEME), TOWER, ON & ON
and ROCK & ROLLERS from the album ANGEL (1975)
Produced by Derek Lawrence and Big Jim Sullivan
All arrangements by ANGEL

FEELIN' RIGHT and ANYWAY YOU WANT IT from the
album HELLUVA BAND (1976)
Produced by Derek Lawrence and Big Jim Sullivan
All arrangements by ANGEL

CAN YOU FEEL IT and WHITE LIGHTNING from the
album ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN (1977)
Produced and engineered by Eddie Kramer

DON'T LEAVE ME LONELY,
AIN'T GONNA EAT OUT MY HEART ANYMORE,
GOT LOVE IF YOU WANT IT,
FLYING WITH BROKEN WINGS (WITHOUT YOU) and
THE WINTER SONG from the album WHITE HOT (1977)
Produced by Eddie Leonetti

THE CHRISTMAS SONG from the WHITE HOT sessions,
issued only as a single (1978)

Produced by Eddie Leonetti

DON'T TAKE YOUR LOVE, BAD TIME,
I'LL NEVER FALL IN LOVE AGAIN and WILD AND HOT
from the album SINFUL (1979)

Produced by Eddie Leonetti for 327 Productions, Inc.

WALK AWAY RENEE from the SINFUL sessions,
previously unreleased

Produced by Eddie Leonetti for 327 Productions, Inc.

20TH CENTURY FOXES (single version) from the album
MUSIC FROM THE MOTION PICTURE FOXES (1980)

Produced by Giorgio Moroder

Compilation Produced by Bill Levenson

Mastered by George Marino at Sterling Sound, New York
Digitally edited by John Kubick at Sterling Sound, New York

Liner Notes by Dave Reynolds

Design by Jeff Faville

Angel logo type by Bob Petrick

Graphics by Gribbitt!

Photography by Neil Zlozower, Jeff Dunas and Barry Levine

Coordination by Terri Tierney

Special thanks to David Kapp

