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Cheap
Trick
Dream
Police



Prior to the Stateside release of *Live At Budokan* in February of 1978, Cheap Trick recorded their next studio LP, *Dream Police*, but it was held back for seven months as the band rode the wave of red-hot success of their live album.

Taking a giant step forward from their previous studio efforts, on *Dream Police* Cheap Trick delivered a tour de force of ambitious songwriting, skill-light ensemble playing, and adventurous orchestration. Issued in the fall of 1979, *Dream Police* quickly went platinum, scoring to #6 on the *Billboard*® charts. Withing #20 on the single chart, the title track, remains one of the band's landmark recordings. The album's second single, "Police," soared to #32.

Twenty-five years since its release, *Dream Police* is championed by Cheap Trick aficionados as a seminal milestone in the band's four-decade career.

THE ALBUM:

BOB NICHOLSON: "Dream Police is sort of a concept album, especially with the cover and the inner sleeve and some of the songs. It's very much a 'brain' and 'brain-power' oriented album. People were starting to balk at us around that era. We felt confident in ourselves. The songs still hold up. All the songs fit together, there was pop, readiness for the time and straight-ahead rock stuff."

BUN E. CARLOS: "It's the album we did in the fall of '79 that sat around for a year until it came out. We weren't nervous when we made it. We argued with (Tom) Werman all the way through it. He wanted us to change it before it came out and take 'Need Your Love' off it and put 'Gey Trapper' on it. Bob's really came into his own vocally on that album, he really blossomed on it. He did stuff that I thought he'd never done before."

TOM PETERSSON: "It was kind of an extension of Heave-fright. We had been working three hundred nights a year, had done two records a year up to that point, and we were so burned out. We'd also play shows during the recording. The songs on *Dream Police* are great but I don't think it's the strongest record that we did."

THE TRACKS:

DREAM POLICE

RM: "Parts of 'Dream Police' were written years before we recorded it. The middle part is from a song we had called 'Lithomental.' Lyrically the song was inspired by Big Brother watching you, the mindset of someone that's poking your thoughts."

BC: "We demoed it before we signed with CBS in '76. We cut a track for the first album and didn't use it. It was a different arrangement. Rick talked about the song for years. The Becki Markinen, a Swedish band, had an album called *The Dream Police*. Rick always loved the name."

WAY OF THE WORLD

RM: "It's more than just a pop song, there's some substance to it."

BC: "It was originally called 'See Me Now.' Robin took the lead on that one writing wise."

TP: "'Way Of The World' is underappreciated, that song should have been a hit."

THE HOUSE IS ROCKIN' (WITH DOMESTIC PROBLEMS)

RM: "It's the kid kicked off that doesn't like his parents, it's obviously nothing out of the ordinary, the sort of thing happens every day, domestic quarrels, domestic hassles, domestic crap between a family or whatever."

BC: "We cut the basic tracks and the guitars weren't quite in tune with each other. There was a lot of work putting the instrumental track together. When we got done cutting tracks I went home for a week, came back out to record 'Voices' and they played me 'House Is Rockin'' and asked me what I thought. I said, 'To cut the last verse in hot.' [Laughs] They whipped out these color blades and started cutting up the multi-track tape."

GORNA RAISE HELL

RM: "It's a song about religious, political and nuclear fanatics. It was about some bad dictator in power who's coming to run the party. Sam Kinison told us where he got his idea to scream all the time was from 'Gorna Raise Hell.'"

BC: "Tom Werman didn't think that the snare drum sounded strong enough so he took two boards [laughs] and overbatted them, hitting wood against wood for the whole song."

I'LL BE WITH YOU TOMORROW

BC: "That's one of the first songs we learned back in '74 when Rick started writing for Cheap Trick. That song underwent a couple different permutations. There's a part, 'my heart was a breaker,' that sets up the

chorus, and it comes from a song of ours called 'Hot Toronto' that we used to do even before Robin was in the band."

RM: "Another pop song. The lyrics are specific and simple. To make it so it's not so banal is why there's the oddball chords and the difficult arrangement. I have a difficult time doing the normal thing in songwriting."

VOICES

Robin Swick: "Voices is an interesting number because of the vocal harmonies and the amount of work that went into arranging the vocals in the studio."

RM: "It was kind of your inner thoughts speaking or whispering to you in the voice that only you can hear. I think it's a real good record."

RL: "Before I joined Cheap Trick, I did a lot of Neil Young and Beatles songs. I enjoy changing around and singing with different voices, it's like being an actor and having a part in movies where not every role is exactly the same. That's the way I kind of look at singing songs."

RM: "On 'Voices,' he instinctively gets that earnest where most singers would sing it straight or else go right over the top."

BC: "'Voices' was originally written for Tom to sing. We cut a later version with Tom singing it. We thought it sounded like a mid-tempo R&B song. We recall that thinking we should slow it down and let Robin sing it. We did three run-throughs in the studio and used the second one. It was the four of us, the guy from Tatra: Steve Lukather playing guitar and Joel Winding playing piano. Robin sat in a vocal booth. Rick and Lukather sat there with

a couple of acoustic and we played the song live."

RL: "'Voices' is another song that probably should have been a bigger song than it was."

WAITING ON THE WALL

RM: "That was probably my feeble attempt of trying to be Ray Wood for three and a half minutes."

BC: "It was the first live song we played off *Dream Police* and it bombed everywhere we did it [laughs]."

I KNOW WHAT I WANT

RM: "Tom used to sing 'Waiting For The Man' and 'Havin' by Lou Reed. That track was a pop takeoff on those two songs."

TP: "I could sing but not in the standard American ideal vein. It was more of a personality thing. I remember Tom Werman didn't think I should do it at all. He said, 'Are well, we have Robin who's the world's greatest singer, why should you be singing?' Rick wanted me to do it and so did Robin so I ended up singing it."

BC: "Originally Robin was gonna sing that. It was in a different key and it was all guitar feedback, kind of Velvet Underground-y."

NEED YOUR LOVE

RM: "The rhythm of the song reminds me of a bunch of callos with guitar backing. It's kind of John Lennon-ish. It's pretty simple-sounding but emotionally charged."



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5FT

WORLD'S BEST
WORLD'S BEST
WORLD'S BEST
WORLD'S BEST

HC: "I thought that was, why really good. I had reminded me of a Dennis Summer song."

BC: "We learned the song when we were doing feature songs and Tom Weirum said 'That song is so good. Buckle up like the third or fourth time we'll ever produce it. We also did it at the CBS Convention that summer and Tom Weirum was like, 'That song's good, how come that's not going on the album?' And we were like, 'You buffed, you and Perry [Nosey] said the song was no good and talked us out of it.' The KISS film [1975] Meets Like Flamingo, got on when we were calling that and we wanted to see the end of it. We did the first take and they really worked it in, the first chord (and like the like coughs). We did another take, and it was like 'That's good, let's go and watch the KISS movie.'"

BONUS TRACKS:

THE HOUSE IS ROCKIN' (WITH DOMESTIC PROBLEMS) (LINE) and I KNOW WHAT I WANT (LINE)

HC: "Whenever we do any of these songs live it's all such a relief that all of our records."

"WAY OF THE WORLD" (LINE)

BC: "This is one of the only times that we played 'Way of the World' live because it's so hard to do live. There's hard vocal parts on it. There's more than one part for Robie to sing on there, there are two of three Robie's at the studio track."

DREAM POLICE (No Strings Version)

HC: "The g tough mix without the strings and it also has Rick doing harmony on his little vocal part in the middle."

1. Dream Police

(B. Norwood)

(C) The dream police they live inside of my head / The dream police they come to live in my bed / The dream police they're coming to steal me

We know the bed and we know each other / And when I fall asleep / I don't know if you're the right for right

(C) Some they're waiting for me - looking for me / Only some are right / They're in / I dream the image - made them inside my brain

But I can't tell how / Cause they're listening to me / And when I fall asleep / They're coming in the tonight, tonight

(C) I try to sleep, they're with me / They won't leave me alone / They don't get out of the window / Or let me alone / They are on top of my head / They won't let me alone / They surround me, they're the biggest and the best

(C) I know, you know something's wrong and I gotta go home / The dream, the dream, the dream, the dream, the dream / The dream, the dream, the dream, the dream, the dream / Heavy, heavy, heavy, heavy / The house is rockin' still / I gotta go in / I can't let the words cause they're so damned tough / And the love that can't get enough / Problems - I can't explain what I can't see

(C) I know, you know something's wrong and I gotta go home / The dream, the dream, the dream, the dream, the dream / The dream, the dream, the dream, the dream, the dream / Heavy, heavy, heavy, heavy / The house is rockin' still / I gotta go in / I can't let the words cause they're so damned tough / And the love that can't get enough / Problems - I can't explain what I can't see

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2. Way Of The World

(B. Norwood)

It's the way of the world / September - you were in school and I followed you home / September - didn't think I wanted, but we're coming together right now

(C) It's the way of the world / September - you were in school and I followed you home / September - didn't think I wanted, but we're coming together right now

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(C) It's the way of the world / September - you were in school and I followed you home / September - didn't think I wanted, but we're coming together right now

3. The House Is Rockin' (With Domestic Problems)

(B. Norwood)

I know, you know something's wrong and I gotta go home / The dream, the dream, the dream, the dream, the dream / The dream, the dream, the dream, the dream, the dream / Heavy, heavy, heavy, heavy / The house is rockin' still / I gotta go in / I can't let the words cause they're so damned tough / And the love that can't get enough / Problems - I can't explain what I can't see

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4. Gonna Make You

(B. Norwood)

Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you

(C) Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you

(C) Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you

(C) Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you

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(C) Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you

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(C) Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you

(C) Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you / Gonna make you - gonna make you

5. I'll Be With You Tonight

(B. Norwood)

I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

6. Values

(B. Norwood)

How do you know what you were looking for / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) How do you know what you were looking for / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

(C) How do you know what you were looking for / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

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(C) How do you know what you were looking for / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight / I'll be with you tonight

