

BAD MEDICINE

(21.40 - 23.15 hrs)

Review CD-Presentatie

So far I never cared much about tribute bands. I mean, it isn't the real thing. But when I read about a single release party of the Bon Jovi tribute band Bad Medicine in MC The Bosuil in Weert, The Netherlands, I was curious, as they won the Dutch contest 'The Clash of the Cover Bands 2010/2011'. This fact and because Bon Jovi was a big part of my youth made me decide to check this out.

There seems to be a new trend in the tribute scene. Earlier this year Jamie Allen alias Baby Bret, singer of the Poison tribute band Talk Dirty, released his first solo album The Storyteller filled with 10 own songs. And now it is this Dutch Bon Jovi tribute band Bad Medicine who was about to release their self-penned single "Hang On To You". As winner of the contest 'The Clash of the Cover Bands 2010/2011' the band got the chance to enter the studio with Belgium sound-engineer Werner Pensaert (K's Choice and U2).

But first things first... when I walked into the venue support act LNB just played their last songs. LNB is a fun project from 3 Dutch guys and their acoustic guitars. They describe their project as tough, nasty and pure. Let them play in a bar, have a couple of beers and you have a great night out! Their version of Ace of Spades was even the best I ever heard!

Half an hour later Bon Jovi entered the stage... oeps, sorry... it is Bad Medicine. For a moment I really thought it was Richie Sambora and Jon Bon Jovi walking. These guys really did their homework. Frank uses several keyboards just as David Bryan, while Ron alias Tico Torres is hidden behind an impressive drumkit. A lot of speakers and several flags give the stage a professional look. Check the pictures below!

The look-a-likes start with one of Bon Jovi's biggest hits "Livin' on a Prayer". Guitar player Mike even uses a talkbox just as Richie Sambora does. The opener is followed by another classic hit You Give Love a Bad Name, on the same way as the New Jersey rockers often did and one of my Jovi favorites Born To Be My Baby taken from New Jersey. What a start!

The show continues with of course a greatest hits setlist. Bon Jovi's catalogue is filled with many well known songs which all were sung along by the audience. "It's My Life", the mega ballad "Bed of Roses", the party anthem "Bad Medicine", the cowboy tune "Wanted Dead or Alive" and on and on...

Halfway the show the new single "Hang On To You" and the videoclip are presented to the audience. For now the physical CD-single has only been released in the Benelux. In 2012 the single will hit German and Austrian record stores. The band played their song also live on stage as the last song on their setlist. It's a great modern sounding rocker with all the Bon Jovi ingredients. My advice would be: Keep on writing new songs!

The Dutch Bon Jovi end the show with the fan favourite "Raise Your Hands" taken from the Jovi breakthrough album "Slippery When Wet". I really enjoyed the show. Ticket prices for Bon Jovi shows are really expensive these days. So if you don't want to spend all your well earned money on a BJ concert this tribute band is a real good alternative. You can't get closer to the real thing than this...