

First of all: Bass lines. Yes RHCP's Californication is an album with decent low-end parts that don't simply mimic the higher 6 strings. It's not exactly making the genre sound sophisticated, but the truth is, if you are even slightly creative with your bass in rock music, you're regarded as kind of a God to fans. Why? Maybe because of the thicker string gauges than the ones on electric guitars? Extra work on the fingers, right? Well not really. You don't have to be a body builder. Anyway, even more intensely, apparently many people consider Chili bassist 'Flea' among the best Gods of all time. Woooah, there. Every heard of Billy Sheehan? He's ten times better. Ok, technically speaking Flea (real name Michael) IS among the best musicians if you're using the word very broadly. I suppose you could call the top 49% the greatest. But if you do that, you could call me among the quickest typists (well I might be with my practice), among the biggest grape consumers (more likely) and more impressively, among the most knowledgeable about the subject of instrumental shred metal. Actually, I think that whole idea is pretty cool, so I won't moan any more. And now that I think of it, why the man calls himself Flea, I don't know. Personally I'd prefer to call myself his birth name. I mean most people would absolutely hate the thought of having fleas. Why not call himself 'Lion' aka 'King of the Jungle'? Why not at least be positive? He might as well call himself 'Pest' or 'Infection'.

You know what's REALLY cool about this album? The lyric 'we could walk through Leicester Square'. I've been in Leicester Square! It's nice to have somewhere near you live appreciated. London is also kind of famous for having blobs of chewing gum on the pavement turned into works of art. (Or at least in the past it was. Maybe the artist has moved on to work where he actually gets paid). Of course it's good that crime can be turned into something positive, but if you want to have a really beneficial effect on society, why not do something to fight knife crime first? Personally I'm not really even that bothered if I get something on my shoe. It's just a shoe. You know what else London is famous for? Jack the Ripper. He took knife crime to a whole new level. There's a lot of mystery about the murderer, but I watched a documentary about who he could be, and the theory that he was... well I can't remember his name, so let's call him 'Tucker'... the evidence he was Tucker was pretty compelling. Out of curiosity I Googled and looked at his picture and he really looked like a murderer. So that was that. Mystery solved once and for all.

After that breather, let's go back to the album: It also has the lyric 'you can die, but you're never dead'. RHCP have balls of steel for writing that. They must have known about stories such as the one where a Judas Priest fan killed himself because of a hidden message in the music. A message that could only be heard if you played the album backwards and had a very vivid imagination. The chilis are blatantly saying: 'Do it. Trust me.' Let's Google 'RHCP controversies' to see if they were sued... The only real controversy that comes up immediately is the Super Bowl one where the vocals at the event were performed live (all good), but the instruments were pre-recorded. (Ohhh). Personally I would have it the other way round, as the occasional dodgy instrumental note sounds nowhere near as bad as a vocal cockup, but whatever. And let's Google the definition of 'controversy'... Here goes: 'Prolonged public disagreement or heated discussion'. A heated discussion about not playing live properly? Who cares? I'm being reminded of painted bubblegum again.

Let's have a look at the album cover: On it, the sky is water and instead of water being in the swimming pool it is filled with orange clouds. Does that happen often in

California? Ok having Googled the meaning of the artwork I understand it now. Apparently it represents people's inverted view of the place. Many people idealise it, but it's actually not so good. A bit of a poo hole, I guess you could say. Don't I sound like the asshole for making fun of the artwork? I'm not deleting what I said though, coming up with material isn't easy you know? Long term viewers of this site will know I'm 100% fine with filling out articles or whatever with total bulls\*\*t if it makes things easier for me and I don't really even mind the odd repetition here and there, either. And so what? F\*\*k it. Now for no reason whatsoever let's take the p\*\*s out of the song titles: 'Around the World', 'Parallel Universe', 'Scar Tissue'. Lol, dumbasses. Ok THAT was being an asshole. My word. Maybe it's for everyone's benefit if I just leave things here. I give this album 10/10. Please don't hate me! (Now the band have stopped reading as they are lovely people though a little too prone to skimming, I actually give it 9. Not bad, though. Oh one more thing, RHCP is a bit of a long name isn't it? Let's see if I can match/beat the band's length and catchiness: How about the creepy, black metal inspired 'Spiders, But with Wings', the lighthearted 'Uncle Terry's World of Fun' or the inspirational though pushy 'Everyone Should go to the Gym'? No? Well bye!)