

I remember back in 2008, there was loads of hype about an upcoming Guns N' Roses album called 'Chinese Democracy'. Everyone was going 'oh my God, I can't wait, this is going to be so good!', and when it came out, no one liked it. It was as if the band had their own unique sound that only musical Gods could replicate. Not true. 'Let the Music Do the Talking' by The Joe Perry Project easily rivals the hard rock band. Furthermore, many people (often not guitarists themselves) think Slash is the best 6-stringer of all time. So good that he is actually BETTER than God. THAT'S crazy. It's not as mental as when someone said King Crimson's Robert Fripp was the greatest axeman in the world, (yes that was said many years ago on a Panel Show, but it really stuck with me as he's actually below average), but it goes to show that many people's opinions should be silenced for the greater good. In actuality, it's STEVE VAI who is the best musician (yes I meant to use that extremely broad word) on the planet.

Ok, ok, ok, Joe Perry isn't as good as Stab or whatever after all that buildup, but he is still very entertaining to listen to as are his compositions. Not only that, in some ways LTMDTT is superior to the supergroup's stuff. Take for example the intro guitar riff of 'Sweet Child Of Mine'. Apparently it was written as a joke. Slash effectively calls his fans a bunch of w***ers for liking it. You don't get any of that with Joe Perry. You know what else you don't get with the Guns? Lyrics that are fun. Let's compare the two groups: First we have Mr. Perry's 'Lady on the left, lady on the right, we're gonna have a real good time' and now we have Axl Rose's 'we're in the jungle baby, we're gonna die!' How is that enjoyable? And what's with the arrogance of making up names for yourself that aren't even spelt right? Too good for the English language, huh? And what's with the band name itself? How hard is it just to spell the word 'And'? 'But Simon, Guns N' Roses is a much more interesting name than the name of an artist with 'Project' written after it...' Ok, you got me there. Still though, at least they don't spell it 'P'ject' and consequently confuse millions of youngsters who are just learning how to spell. Poor little fellas.

Now I'll move onto album covers: 'LTMDTT' is just a load of guys sitting at a table, but still though it's better than 'Appetite for Destruction's' original artwork, which was banned because it was so terrible. 'Wow, it was banned? What a groundbreaking concept it must have been!' No! Anyone can be 'groundbreaking' if they wanted to be. Of course, if they took an idea too far, they could well end up spending the rest of their days getting perpetual funny looks, which will kind of badass in a punky way to others I guess, but what I'm saying is it takes no skill. And what the hell happened later on in G'N'R's career when they just took a picture of spaghetti and used that as cover art? Again to me, it's calling the buyers (who are spending their hard earned money, remember) a load of twats. And if you don't think that happens in the music industry, you're wrong. I've heard of artists attacking their own fanbase, criticising them for not 'getting' the lyrics or whatever. Such condensing (whoops, I meant 'condescending' could happen to anyone) behaviour has inspired me to write a sketch where a singer goes crazy and has a go at his whole audience one by one. That could be funny...

Okey dokey, let's sum up: Guns N' Roses are not the Gods of hard rock. Van Halen, David Lee Roth and of course Joe Perry, etc., rock just as hard, and with DLR, the musicianship is FAR more advanced. You don't have to spend the rest of your life waiting and praying for the mocked band in question to release more material that

probably won't be very good, just broaden your tastes a little, for flip's sake. Now that I think of it, even the so called 'improved artwork' of AfD that we all know because it's legal isn't exactly amazing. Skulls on a cross? Skulls? I can't even think of a bigger hard rock cliché. Maybe the 'devil horns' with the hands are more popular than various bones, but probably only because you have to be very artistic and patient to pull off a skull shape with the fingers, palm, etc. What do I give Joe Perry's debut?... Hm.... I think 8.5 out of 10 is fair. Interestingly on further deep reflection, I'd probably give AfD a good 10 out of 10, making me contradict myself a little, but I DO think some Van Halen albums are better. (Yes, better than a 10). Bye!