

WE

"Smugglers"

Beirut 1965. It hot, the streets are filled with people, traffic and noise. The neonlights are blinking, the casinos are filled up and the night sets in. At the same time, down on the docks among crains, gullshrieks and cargo ships. An unknown man man dies in a pool of blood. A shadow disappears among the containers scattered round, with the deceased's notebook, passport and wallet.

This could be the opening of a pulp fiction paperback on sale at your nearest newsagent. But it's one of several stories taken from WE's latest album, their 6th 'Smugglers'.

'Smugglers' is WE in 2004. Written by the band before, during and after two european tours WE did during 2003. 'Smugglers was recorded in the legendary Hangaroundsounds i Oslo with help from the guru of modern hard rock, WE's friend, tour buddy and accomplice; Chris Goss (Queens Of The Stone Age, Masters Of Reality, Kyuss, Mark Lanegan etc.)

During 4 intense weeks in december 2003, in the darkest time of year in Norway. The songs were recorded in classic 70's tempo, only interrupted by short breaks of norwegian hot dogs, jazz cigarettes and shots of Southern Comfort.

WE have with their co-producer and 5th member on the album, Chris Goss made pure rock'n'roll magic.

Just listen to songs like Catch Electric (video with Norway's hottest female actress Ane Dahl Torp), Wroom, Crawling Out Of The Wreckage, Lightyears Ahead, and Cosamic Biker R'N'R. songs that oozes of fists in the air, beer in free floating streams and sing-a-longs. Leadheavy Sugar & Cannabinoles and Sulphur Roast Stomp smells claustrophobia and decibels pumped out in a padded cell, Lucid is maybe the heaviest riff ever from WE, while WE shows off completely new sides to their personalities in the undescibably beautiful ballad Sassy Zazie, accompanied by sweetness and vocalist Thomas Felberg's hurtful lyric and vocal magic.

The titlecut Smugglers which clocks in at 9'50, is a cinemascopic voyage into the world of a drug smuggler anno 1965, and maybe the best song WE has written ever. Just listen to the opening guitar riff, the drums and bass that underline the guitar perfectly, while Mr. Felberg sings some classical vocal lines that sends shivers down the spine. The titlecut shows the ambience that surrounded WE and Chris Goss during the recording of 'Smugglers', pure bliss...

'Smugglers' last song On The Verge To Go rounds off just short of 50 minutes of music drenched, laced, spiked in cascades of sound, that is psychedelia, classic hard rock, progressive rock and stoned notes all rolled into one hefty snowball from the barbaric north Scandinavia. But always with the melody and nerve intact.

'Smugglers' is a power example of a perfect rock album and shows which kind of champions WE now has become as songwriters and performers.

The result that is 'Smugglers" is a rare document of a band in full bloom.

A release that will stand as one of the best albums of this year and many years to come.

'Smugglers' tells of a band who has released music for 10 years, toured extensively throughout Europe the last 7 years, either as headline or support.

WE has at anytime always done what they bloody well pleased and 'Smugglers is the culmination of their legacy as a rock'n'roll band so far.

'Smugglers is a seldomly strong album for everybody who has ever been into rock'n'roll.