Skydog - The Duane Allman Story
(Book) by Randy Poe

Great Book

The definitive biography of one of the most revered guitarists of his generation. Duane Allman brought white-hot intensity to his life, onstage, in the studio, and beyond. Skydog reveals the complete story of Duane Allman, from his early struggles and his session days, to the formation of the Allman Brothers Band and his tragic early death at age 24. Skydog also includes a comprehensive discography, a meticulously researched roundup of his studio and stage instruments, and a look at the continuing lives and careers of Allmans friends and bandmates.

Features:
* ISBN13: 9780879308919
* Condition: NEW
* Notes: Brand New from Publisher. No Remainder Mark.
Personal Review: Skydog - The Duane Allman Story (Book) by Randy Poe

If you haven't heard of Duane Allman before, buy this book.

If you love Duane Allman (and really, how could you feel any other way?), buy this book.

Just buy the damn book.

No, I'm not Randy Poe, I've been a fan of Duane's work ever since I first heard him play on vinyl in the early '70s.

Of course, Duane was dead by then.

I did make it my project to buy everything Duane ever appeared on, so I have a fair idea of the subject matter.

This book not only conveys a very vivid impression of all recordings, but gives the inside story on how they happened, and gives the detailed memories of the participants.

Duane was a powerful, yet sensitive and sympathetic guitar player who greatly enhanced every session and gig he played on. He virtually created a new musical category of southern rock, but managed to blend this style so skillfully into the work of other artists, that he lifted their own performances to new heights. You can hear other musicians reacting to his rhythm and lead breaks, each striving to bring their best. This was not only because of Duane's startling ability, but also because of his leadership style, winning personality, and inability to accept less than the best that anyone had to offer.

His live recordings with his band are simply the best tracks ever recorded, anywhere, any time.

With great songs as just the starting point, the Allmans extemporize and add layers of melody and harmony in all musical styles, offering blues, country, jazz et al. The sheer power of the twin guitar, twin drum attack lifts the spirits, savage lead licks twining in and out of the melody line, tender heartbreaking lyricism in slow passages, the band hits all the emotional stops. There is nothing that comes close in providing all the musical satisfaction these recordings contain. In fact, if I don't listen to the Allmans live at least once a month, I begin to get a little depressed. The cure is only a CD away. The passion in these recordings puts everything into perspective.

To think that Duane achieved all this while traveling the vast spaces of America, stopping off for studio sessions, keeping his band together, experimenting with every drug he could lay his hand on, indulging in a stuntman's thrill quest (which finally led to his tragic early demise - stone
cold sober, though). He managed to change the face of music within 4 short years, and generate an entire industry of Southern bands.

He lit the torch, and the fire is still burning.

This book brings it all out, and is essential reading for anyone with any interest in rock music.

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