



PRESS RELEASE

Hamburg, July 9th, 2014.
For immediate release!

Deep Purple

to
release

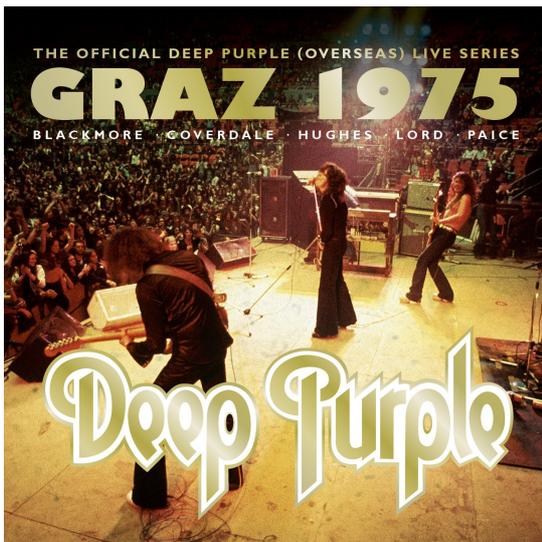
the

previously unavailable live performance “Graz 1975”
on September 12th, 2014 on earMUSIC

Over 70 minutes of previously unreleased material

On April 3, 1975 the Mk III line-up of Purple – guitarist **Ritchie Blackmore**, frontman **David Coverdale**, bassist/vocalist **Glenn Hughes**, keyboard player **Jon Lord** and drummer **Ian Paice** – played a concert at the Liebenauer ice rink, located on the outskirts of mountain-cradled Graz, Austria’s second largest city after Vienna. Enthused by Purple’s arrival in town, the local press dubbed the concert *“das Rockereignis des Jahres [the rock event of the year]”*. And it was – in more ways than one. Previously unreleased in its entirety, **“Graz 1975”** – the fourth part of earMUSIC’s successful reissues series – will be released on **September 12th, 2014 on earMUSIC**.

After Graz, Purple would play just two more shows – in Saarbrücken, Germany and Paris, France – before Blackmore left to form his new band, Rainbow. The remaining Purple members would regroup quickly with American guitarist Tommy Bolin in tow, in place of Blackmore. But that’s another story...



In order to preserve Blackmore’s final run of Mk III concerts for posterity, Purple’s managers had brought the Rolling Stones mobile recording studio over to mainland Europe. And what a show it was! Graz 1975 is absolutely electrifying and exhilarating. Indeed, it has long been regarded as the holy grail of concert recordings among Mk III connoisseurs. A performance that has never been available in its entirety until now.

As soon as you feast your ears on opening track **“Burn”** (surely the best version of this song, ever) you know you’re in for a wild ride. And so it proves. Blackmore plays with controlled brutality – if he’s pissed off, it doesn’t show; if he’s angry, it most certainly does. The vocal interplay between

Coverdale and Hughes has never sounded so good. And, of course, stalwarts Lord and Paice give it a good kicking – and then some.

earMUSIC is the international rock label of Hamburg based entertainment group Edel, releasing internationally the works of Foreigner, Chickenfoot, Blue October, Lostboy Aka Jim Kerr, Bush, Angels & Airwaves, Joe Jackson, Unisonic, Gamma Ray, Stratovarius, Kamelot, Skunk Anansie, Europe, H.E.A.T, The Stranglers, Status Quo, Deep Purple, Marillion, Chrissie Hynde, Savatage, The Parlotones and many others.



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The tracklisting, naturally, is weighted heavily in favour of Mk III recordings, with just two songs from Purple's previous incarnation with Ian Gillan on vocals and Roger Glover on bass: the iconic "**Smoke On The Water**" and the almost-as-iconic "**Space Truckin**". Still, it's true to say that, from beginning to end, Graz 1975 showcases Purple Mk III at the absolute top – and also, ironically, at the end – of their game.

After almost 40 years the concert still captivates people. It is the perfect example that for Purple there is no need for extravagant video projections or expensive fire shows to play a unique and fascinating gig. All they need is their great music.

It is the love and passion for their music that gives the guys from **Deep Purple** the energy for their shows and makes every single show to a unique experience.

As Neue Zeit quite rightly reported in April '75: "*Deep Purple gaben sich wirklich Mühe ihr 'Abschiedskonzert' zu einem grandiosen Erlebnis zu steigern [Deep Purple really did make an effort to increase their 'farewell concert' to a terrific experience]*".

Tracklist

1. Burn
2. Stormbringer
3. The Gypsy
4. Lady Double Dealer
5. Mistreated
6. Smoke On The Water
7. You Fool No One
8. Space Truckin'

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