

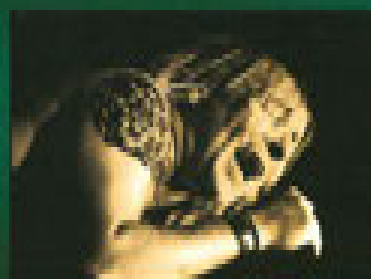
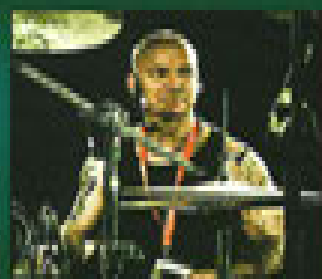
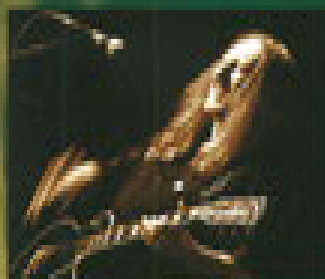
URIAH HEEP

[Handwritten signatures and scribbles in black ink, including a circled '90' and a signature that appears to be 'Phil Bryan']

wake the sleeper world tour

URIAH HEEP





A CRUSH OF SOUND FOR THE COMMON GOOD...

There's only a cherished, almost hallowed handful of bands one might call, alien, heritage acts, that are inspiringly crafting the very best music of their careers right now.

Deep Purple, Cheap Trick, ZZ Top, Motörhead... arguably all of these bands' last fistful of albums ranks with any (predictable) bunch from the catalogue one could assemble in challenge. But emphatically I must, as well, name-check the mighty Uriah Heep as part of that short list of older champions rocking hard against the lure of the rocking chair.

Beating heart of the band Mick Box and his skilled Heep cohorts have struck a rich vein, a sturdy stride, up here in their golden years, through a trio of superlative records called *Sea Of Light*, *Humie Origami* and now *Wake The Sleeper*, proud promoter of the tour of which you are now experiencing. And even if Mick is the anchor of the band - its link to Heep's very earliest days - vocalist Bernie Shaw, keyboardist Phil Lanzoni and bassist Trevor Bolder have helped build the band's sound into the monumental force it now is through collective decades of service. And while we're at it, let's introduce powerhouse drummer Russell Galbrook, who recently took the chair due to the retirement of Lee Kerlake, with well wishes all 'round from the band for a relaxing and productive many years to come!

In any event, speak to Box, and one gets a sense that o'er the last decade or so, he feels that the band has finally fully identified and harnessed the magic of Heepness, along with an ability to unleash it at will. And fortunate to the texture and contouring of the band's latest amazing records, that alchemy is a complicated one, consisting of grinding Hammond organ, Mick's love of wah-wah and muscular stacked power chords, the soaring, soul-replenishing vocals of Shaw, and above all, a fresh and uplifting positivity of lyric and concept Heep is unique amongst hard rockers in producing.

Delivering a good-natured jab, Box is prone to treat the inevitable comparisons of his band with friendly rivals Deep Purple by saying that the main difference between the two is that "we have five vocalists and they have one," adding that, "they are more about virtuosity and we are more about songwriting." There's the rub of two other shining facets of this band, first, a clarion call of harmonies that leaps from the band's tracks like a more muscular version of what we once got from Sweet and Queen. And second, there's the songwriting, which, given the rollickingly positive yet mature and realistic messaging of the lyrics, tends to turn an astonishing number of Heep songs into emboldening anthems.

And all of this has been proven time and time again, through a bewildering stack of albums - some hits, some misses - assembled by various lineups as the band moves through its eventful career as we all do through life itself, with a comforting and identifying measure of messiness.

Scanning quickly the band's nearly 40 year history... man, there are a number of treasures there, and I'd like to tip a hat to a few of them. Foremost as pure achievement, one would have to call the band's debut from way back in 1970, one of the first pure and modern heavy metal albums of all time, to be sure, there are two Sabbath records from that year, as well as Deep Purple - *In Rock*. But Heep's first... well, it's fully three-quarters stomping metal, and "Bird Of Prey" and "Gypsy" just might eclipse in class and sophistication, anything that Purple and Sabbath had launched as of that year. Moving on, sure, *Demons And Wizards* and *The Magician's Birthday* are cast-in-stone classics, but I'd have to say that *Look At Yourself* houses the greatest example of electrified metal fused to organ ever through the likes of "Tears In My Eyes" and fave Heep track of all time, "Shadows Of Grief" - Purple would never, ever sound this powerful and persuasive.

Amazing songs are scattered throughout many of the subsequent albums (*Fallen Angel* is a personal fave full record of the latter '70s; "One Way Or Another" is explosive of groove) but it damn near brought tears in my own eyes, how strong Heep stormed back with *Abominog* in 1982. Snickered at for its devil cover, nonetheless this one is an exalted fan fave, Heep showing the NWOBHM upstarts what experience, class, and canny song skills can accomplish. *Head First* was triumphant, accessible and stadium-rocking as well, and then into the modern era, one notices that *Raging Silence* is rising fast in fan estimation these days.

Which brings us back 'round to the here and now, with, as I say, Uriah Heep, against all odds, making some of the best music of their careers. And why should it be "against all odds?" Well, they say rock 'n' roll is a young man's game, and in fact, that is proven, sadly, by too many bands burning out their creativity early and never rediscovering it. Yet, for whatever reason, here before you is a friendly bundle of rock legends, smiling, rolling up their sleeves, approaching the task with optimism and thankfulness for being here and inexplicably, preposterously, being allowed to do this for a living. And it is that set of values that shines through the irrepressible work of Uriah Heep, and it is the transference through that work that inspire the rest of us to take Heep's crush of sound for the common good as nourishment for our own personal roads ahead.

As we head back to those roads, let's send a hearty hail to Uriah Heep for a lifetime of electric joy. And let's hope for many more birthdays for these merry magicians, so they can keep delivering the goods long into a hard rock future that could benefit so keenly from such a class example of rock 'n' rolling radiance.

Martin Popoff
www.marlinpopoff.com

URIAH HEPP



mick box

URIAH HEPP

Time to go on tour and hit the road for 18 months or more and promote Wake The Sleeper.

I always say we let our music do the talking, so it is with great excitement that I start to pack my suitcase. The first thing one must pack as a travelling musician is a sense of humour. I never leave home without it. It gets us through a lot of difficult times - as we do play concerts in some of the remotest parts of the world - and a good laugh gets you through.

When the going gets tough, the tough get laughing is my motto. To be honest, I just made that up, but you get my point. I carry with me an iPod, iPod speakers, Sony Vaio Lap Top, Camera, Skype Phone and a PDA. Now, the transformers alone for that little lot weigh about the same amount as 4 house bricks. This seriously limits the amount of clothes I can take with me, especially at the check-in counters at airports. I have very often had to be a bit crafty with my foot and ease it under the weighing scales so my suitcase doesn't appear to weigh too much - but trying to stay calm and sweating under all of that weight, while smiling at the check-in staff as if nothing is happening, has become an art form.

Back to the packing. This is something that, no matter how many times you do it, you never quite get it right. The questions that always come to mind are; to roll your clothes or fold them and how many pairs of shoes will you need? I always take some trainers in case there is a gym in the hotel or, indeed, in case I have enough time to go out power walking. Funnily enough, when I unpack when I get home, the trainers are in pristine condition and untouched.

I still take a pair, just in case but, in all honesty, an extra couple of pairs of jeans would be much better. We all take a number of DVDs that we can share amongst us, to help make those long journeys on the tour bus seem a little easier. Mind you, the DVDs some of the band and crew bring appear to make the journeys seem longer. Occasionally, we find a DVD that we all like and we congregate around the TV and shout and scream at the screen whilst consuming a few beers etc. When the shouting and screaming starts this is usually the first sign of road burn. Road burn manifests itself in all sorts of ways.

An example of this is that you cannot remember something that has been told to you 5 minutes before and you end up having the memory of a goldfish. You leave room keys in the oddest places, forget to pay your mini-bar bill, miss breakfast because you set your alarm on the wrong time zone, wear different coloured socks, forget your home telephone number and, worst thing of all, forget what time the bus leaves. Touring does have its ups and downs. Try sleeping in a moving bunk and you will know what I mean. If the moving doesn't get you then the animal farm olympic snoring team will.

I cannot wait to play the new songs - alongside some of the classics - and this is always an exciting time. Getting the balance right in the set is tough, as it has to have the right dynamics, and there is always a point where, after a few shows and a couple of changes, you know it is right. You can rehearse as much as you like but there is nothing like playing in front of an audience to sharpen up your game. We have the same passion and energy for what we do as we have always had and we are proud to be taking WTS around the globe and meeting old friends and making new ones along the way.

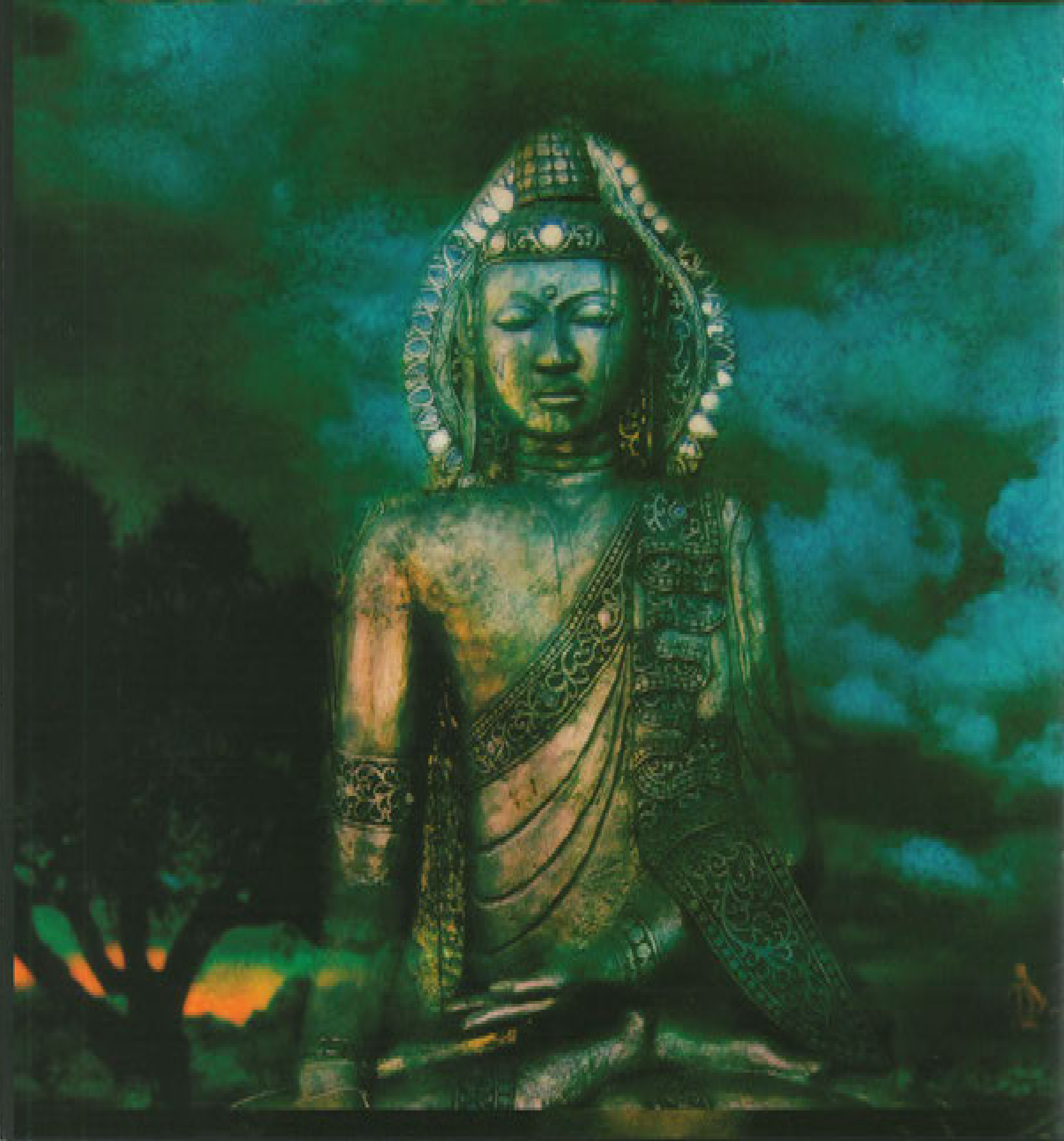
Thanks for buying Wake the Sleeper, the concert ticket, the merchandising and being the best fans in the world. I always say a working band is a happy band - so when you see us smile, you know it is just that.

'Appy days!

Mick



URIAH HEEP



URIAH HEPP



trevor bolder

URIAH HEPP



phil lanjon



URIAH



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er world tour

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bernie shaw

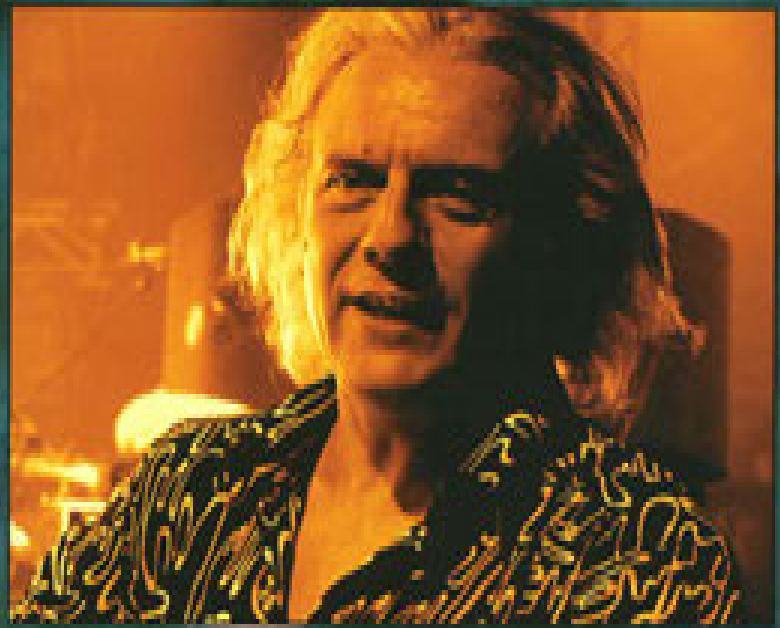


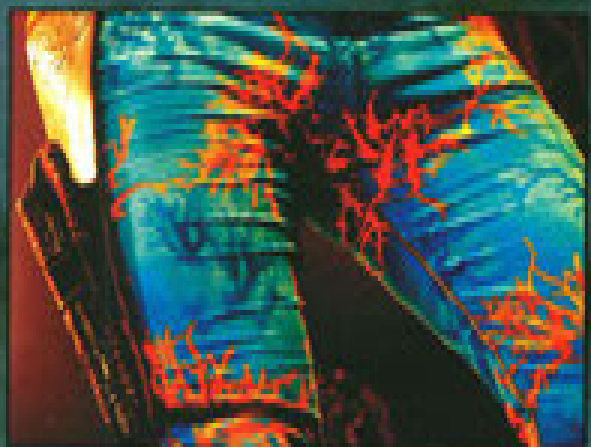
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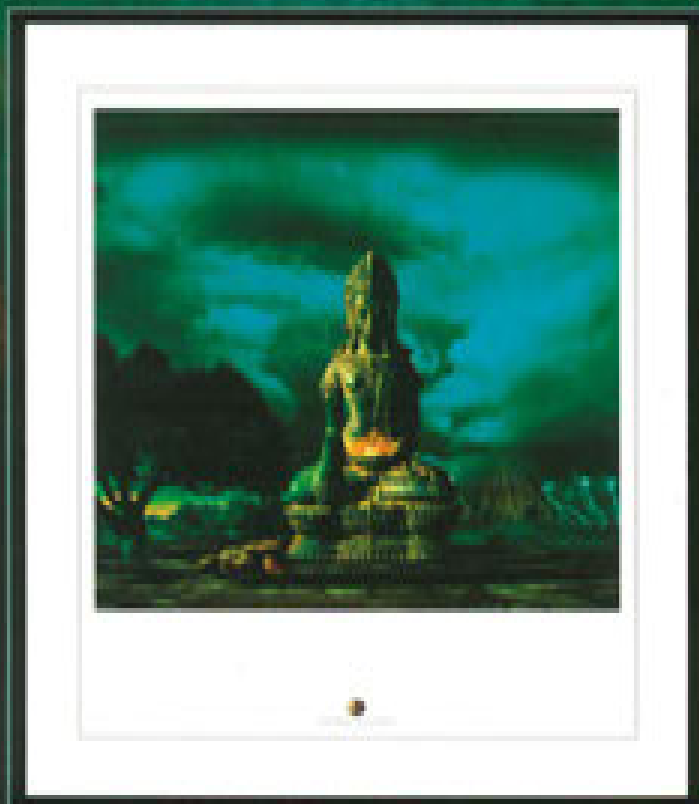






URIAH HEEP

Limited Edition Merchandise



URIAH HEEP WAKE THE SLEEPER SPECIAL COLLECTOR'S EDITION ARTWORK

To commemorate the release of this classic URIAH HEEP album, Ioannis has created two hundred and twenty five (225) prints measuring 20" X 24" unframed. This is the approximate size of the original painting. Each of the prints are printed with a seven archival ink process on pearl paper. Ioannis supervised the printing of each piece individually assuring the closest reproduction to the actual artwork.

Each limited edition print is approved and individually hand signed and numbered by the artist, Ioannis and the members of URIAH HEEP, Mick Box, Trevor Bolder, Bernie Taupin, Phil Lanzetta, and Russell Kilburn.

This special edition will be limited to these two hundred and twenty five pieces only and not reproduced again. A unique collectable that will gain value in time.

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info@durocmedia.com

WORLDWIDE AGENCY
The Agency Group Limited
Neil Warnock & Claire Stone
www.theagencygroup.com

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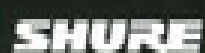
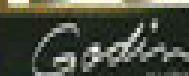
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Ioannis - vividimagesdesign.com

PHOTOGRAPHY
Patrick Casse & Christie Goodwin - www.cphotoart.biz
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OFFICIAL WEBSITE AND MYSPACE SITES
www.uriahheep.com
www.myspace.com/uheep
Dave White: Webmaster USA
Louis Rentrop: Webmaster NL
Rodrigo Werneck: Webmaster BR
Tapio Minkkinen: Special Thanks FIN
Peter Jovanovic: Graphic Design UK

Mick Box Website - www.mick-box.com
www.myspace.com/mickbox
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