

Danko, Fjeld & Andersen "One More Shot" Appleseed Recordings

This double album is composed of the trio's self-titled, 1991 debut studio recording that later won a Contemporary Folk NAIRD in the States, as well as the Norwegian equivalent of a Grammy. It is teamed here with a sixteen-song *late night live* set recorded during the 1991 Molde International Jazz Festival in Norway.

The link, that connects Danko and Fjeld, is Andersen, who at the time of making this recording had known the former for two decades and the latter for just over a decade. Prior to making their debut album the trio toured together, and had recently worked together on bonus tracks for Eric's legendary lost album "Stages." As far as documenting their friendship and musical partnership, I guess this trio recording was their next and most logical step. In addition each contributor is an acknowledged songwriter, although when it came to choosing material they settled for an assortment of originals [some co-written] and cover songs.

The song "One More Shot" dates from 1980, was penned by Brit Paul Kennerley, and first appeared on "The Legend Of Jesse James," a project album that featured Kennerley's wife, at that time, Emmylou Harris, Johnny Cash, Charlie Daniels and Danko. Danko, in the role of Jesse James, performed the lead vocal on the original version and does the same here. Rick also takes the lead vocal on Andersen's early seventies classic "Blue River." Danko's only writing credit is, as a collaborator with Andersen, on the opening cut, "Driftin' Away," and the pair share the vocal on the track. Where Andersen picks up a total of five writing/co-writing credits, Fjeld comes close with a score of four. According to the late Robert Palmer's sleeve notes "Sick And Tired," was a song well familiar to Andersen and Danko, having been a New Orleans R&B standard back in the nineteen-fifties and sixties when both musicians were learning their trade. Tom Paxton's early career anthem "The Last Thing On My Mind" closes the studio disc.

Recorded only a matter of months apart, only five of the studio tracks – "Blue Hotel," "Driftin' Away," "One More Shot," "Blue River" and "When Morning Comes To America" - resurface on the *live* album. Danko opens with a bluesy version of the immortal Sam "Sun Records" Phillips/Herman Parker composition "Mystery Train," which The Band included on "Moondog Matinee." Andersen pitches in a couple of his originals including "Sheila," "Lie With Me" and the laid back closing cut "Come Runnin' Like A Friend" which finds the threesome harmonising on the chorus. Danko takes the lead on the Robbie Robertson composed Band era tunes, "It Makes No Difference" ["Northern Lights - Southern Cross"] and "Twilight" ["Islands"], while, later, Fjeld introduces the atmospheric Hardanger fiddle instrumentals "Preludium Forespel," and the traditional "Skjoldmoyslaget."

Folkwax Rating 7 out of 10

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