

Weather Report – Live in Offenbach 1978 (2011)

Written by bluesever

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CD1 01 – *Black Market* 02 – *Scarlet Woman* 03 – *Young and Fine* 04 – *The Pursuit of the Woman with the Feathered Hat* 05 – *A Remark You Made* 06 – *River People* 07 – *Thanks for the Memories* [play](#) 08 – *Dolores Portrait of Tracy Third Stone from the Sun* 09 – *Mr. Gone* CD2: 01 – *In a Silent Way* [play](#) 02 – *Waterfall* 03 – *Teen Town* 04 – *I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good* 05 – *The Midnight Sun Will Never Set On You* 06 – *Birdland* 07 – *Introductions* 08 – *Fred & Jack* 09 – *Elegant People* 10 – *Badia*
Personnel: Joe Zawinul (keyboards), Wayne Shorter (tenor and soprano saxophone), Jaco Pastorius (electric bass), Peter Erskine (drums).

To commemorate the 40th anniversary of Weather Report the Zawinul estate is proud to release this live document of the band's performance in Offenbach, Germany, on September 29th, 1978. This is the first time that this wonderful live concert has been available on CD.

Previously unreleased recordings from pioneering fusion band Weather Report playing live in the 1970s are streaming from the late Joe Zawinul's estate in the group's 40th anniversary year. This spring's 1975 Live in Berlin set caught the band beginning to sense its power over a rock audience. Live in Offenbach, from September 1978, features the band that included bass-guitar star Jaco Pastorius. It also included Peter Erskine, a shrewd drummer who helped reintroduce a cooler jazz feel after the critical hammering that had greeted the overcooked, studio-made *Mr. Gone* earlier that year. Stripped down to a quartet, the band sound engaged (particularly the sometimes enigmatic saxist Wayne Shorter), and after the standard early workouts on their hits, they get surprisingly loose and open. Shorter exhibits Sonny Rollins's muscular solo-sax whimsicality on the standard *Thanks for the Memory*, and Zawinul's wealth of acoustic-piano improv ideas burst out of *I Got It Bad and That Ain't Good*, while *Birdland* has a bright, rough-and-ready energy. Pastorius's driving basslines thunder through the music, even if his solo spots tend to emit more heat than light. It's a vivid show from a WR period sometimes considered short of inspiration. ---John Fordham, guardian.co.uk

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This version of Joe Zawinul's ship of state featured Peter Erskine and Jaco Pastorius as the Rhythm Section Which Gives You More, but no ancilliary percussionist. The group at its most spacious, crisp and cogent then (whatever your view of the showy style of the bassist): two discs, 18 pieces taken taken from every stage of their decade-long history with only three from hit 1977 album Heavy Weather. Extensive in every sense. Wayne Shorter is very involved too, which always helped. ---Nick Coleman, independent.co.uk

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