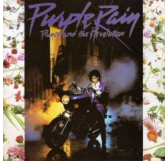


Prince And The Revolution - Purple Rain (1984)

Written by bluesever

Friday, 22 April 2016 15:55 - Last Updated Tuesday, 13 November 2018 21:53

Prince And The Revolution - Purple Rain (1984)



1. *Let's Go Crazy* 4:39 2. *Take Me With U* 3:54 3. *The Beautiful Ones* 5:15 4. *Computer Blue* 3:59 5. *Darling Nikki* 4:15 6. *When Doves Cry* 5:52 7. *I Would Die 4 U* 2:51 8. *Baby I'm A Star* 4:20 9. *Purple Rain* 8:45 Prince – all other vocals and instruments Wendy Melvoin – guitar and vocals (1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9) Lisa Coleman – keyboards and vocals (1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 9) Matt Fink – keyboards (1, 2, 7, 8, 9) Brown Mark – bass (1, 2, 7, 8, 9) Bobby Z. – drums and percussion (1, 2, 7, 8, 9) Novi Novog – violin and viola (2, 8, 9) David Coleman – cello (2, 8, 9) Suzie Katayama – cello (2, 8, 9) Apollonia – co-lead vocals (2) Jill Jones – background vocals (2)

Prince designed *Purple Rain* as the project that would make him a superstar, and, surprisingly, that is exactly what happened. Simultaneously more focused and ambitious than any of his previous records, *Purple Rain* finds Prince consolidating his funk and R&B roots while moving boldly into pop, rock, and heavy metal with nine superbly crafted songs. Even its best-known songs don't tread conventional territory: the bass-less "When Doves Cry" is an eerie, spare neo-psychedelic masterpiece; "Let's Go Crazy" is a furious blend of metallic guitars, Stonesque riffs, and a hard funk backbeat; the anthemic title track is a majestic ballad filled with brilliant guitar flourishes. Although Prince's songwriting is at a peak, the presence of the Revolution pulls the music into sharper focus, giving it a tougher, more aggressive edge. And, with the guidance of Wendy and Lisa, Prince pushed heavily into psychedelia, adding swirling strings to the dreamy "Take Me With U" and the hard rock of "Baby I'm a Star." Even with all of his new, but uncompromising, forays into pop, Prince hasn't abandoned funk, and the robotic jam of "Computer Blue" and the menacing grind of "Darling Nikki" are among his finest songs. Taken together, all of the stylistic experiments add up to a stunning statement of purpose that remains one of the most exciting rock & roll albums ever recorded. --- Stephen Thomas Erlewine, allmusic.com

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Prince, the songwriter, singer, producer, one-man studio band and consummate showman, died Thursday at his residence, Paisley Park, in Chanhassen, Minn., according to a statement from his publicist, Yvette Noel-Schure. He was 57. Prince, born Prince Rogers Nelson on June 7, 1958, was a man bursting with music — a wildly prolific songwriter, a virtuoso on guitars, keyboards and drums and a master architect of funk, rock, R&B and pop, even as his music defied genres. In a career that lasted from the late 1970s until the arena tour this year, he was acclaimed as a sex symbol, a musical prodigy and an artist who shaped his career his way, often battling with accepted music-business practices. Prince's Top 10 hits included "Little Red Corvette," "When Doves Cry," "Let's Go Crazy," "Kiss," and "The Most Beautiful Girl in the World"; albums like "Dirty Mind," "1999" and "Sign O' the Times" were full-length statements. His songs also became hits for others, among them "Nothing Compares 2 U" for Sinead O'Connor and "I Feel for You" for Chaka Khan. With the 1984 film and album "Purple Rain," Prince told a fictionalized version of his own story: biracial, gifted, spectacularly ambitious. Its music won him an Academy Award and the album sold more than 13 million copies in the United States alone. ---Jon Pareless, nytimes.com

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