

Extreme II - Pornograffitti (A Funked Up Fairy Tale) [1990]

Written by bluesever

Friday, 17 June 2011 18:25 - Last Updated Sunday, 25 February 2018 18:11

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1. *Decadence Dance* 2. *Li'l Jack Horny* 3. *When I'm President* 4. *Get the Funk Out* [play](#)
5. *More Than Words* 6. *Money (In God We Trust)* 7. *It ('s a Monster)* 8. *Pornograffitti* 9. *When I First Kissed You*

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10. *Suzie (Wants Her All Day What?)* 11. *He Man Woman Hater* 12. *Song for Love* 13. *Hole Hearted*

Gary Cherone (vocals); Nuno Bettencourt (guitar, keyboards, percussion, background vocals); Pat Badger (bass, background vocals); Paul Geary (drums, percussion). + Dweezil Zappa (guitar); Joel Peskin, Pete Christlieb (tenor saxophone); Chuck Findley, Bob Findley (trumpet); Bill Watrous (trombone); Dick Hyde (bass trombone).

Extreme's self-titled 1989 debut made the Boston quartet quite a "buzz band" in the hard rock underground, but it wasn't until their sophomore release one year later, *PORNOGRAFFITI*, that the band scored their breakthrough hit. In the spring of '91, the lovely acoustic ballad "More than Words" was released as a single, and instantly became a smash hit (nearly a year after *PORNOGRAFFITI* was first released). And while they scored another hit with the similarly styled "Hole Hearted," Extreme's new pop fans must have been surprised when they heard the rest of the album, which was comprised mostly of hard rock/heavy metal tunes.

Extreme's best recording displays this band's considerable talents to their best advantage, particularly those of guitarist Nuno Bettencourt and vocalist Gary Cherone (as of this writing, sounding a lot like Sammy Hagar as the current singer for Van Halen). The album's success has mainly been due to the soft-spoken hits "More Than Words" and "Hole Hearted," but there's plenty to like on this album, which explores the very general theme of love in a cynical world.

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Extreme had a lot on their minds when they recorded Pornograffiti, as evidenced by the songs "Decadence Dance," "When I'm President," and "Money (In God We Trust)." Aside from the aforementioned ballads and the loungey "When I First Kissed You," this album rocks out, examining serious themes with considerable humor, which prevents Extreme from ever sounding preachy or condescending. ---Genevieve Williams

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