



BRAM STOKER

*****LEGENDARY SEMINAL CLASSIC PROGRESSIVE ROCK BAND'S
CONSUMMATE NEW 'COLD READING' ALBUM RELEASED
JANUARY 27TH******

Seminal classic Prog band Bram Stoker have reformed and are set to release a new studio album, 'Cold Reading', as a digipak CD and download, containing eight brand new compositions, plus two re-workings of earlier songs, on the sunn creative label on January 27th. 'Cold Reading', the first official band release since Bram Stoker's debut 1972 'Heavy Rock Spectacular' (Windmill Records) album, effortlessly captures the essence of the band's early pure classic progressive rock music, but with a totally modern, updated sound.

Two original band members - keyboard player Tony Bronsdon, whose classically influenced Hammond organ led Bram Stoker's trademark sound, and guitarist / bassist Tony Lowe - recruited talented drummer / vocalist Will Hack to co-write and record 'Cold Reading'. Original bassist Jon Bavin also collaborated in writing two of the new compositions. 'Cold Reading' was produced by Tony Lowe, who subsequently worked as a musician with the likes of Julian Lennon, Roger Daltrey, Simon Townshend, Visage, Pet Shop Boys and Phil Ramone, plus has produced artists such as Flying Colours, Toyah, John Foxx since the band broke up in 1972.

Tony recalls that "The hard part was capturing the essence of what the band was doing back in '71 and marrying that somehow with a contemporary production. With the two re-recordings, the arrangements didn't really need changing and so I re-recorded everything with a slightly more up to date approach to sound quality. The original recordings were a little rough around the edges as the album had to be recorded pretty much in one day. But the energy and enthusiasm was there, and I hope I captured some of that. I never saw a band that could merge classical music and rock the way Bram Stoker did. Writing new material with Tony and Will was another matter. It was a case of recreating some of the original qualities and although the music is complex the new songs seem to flow easily with the three of us. We also looked at a different side to Bram Stoker, the author, and found he was an interesting man with a penchant for the occult and Victorian spiritualism, along with Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and William B. Yeats. Although Bram Stoker was interested in mesmerism he was also wary of occult fraud (in which Cold Reading plays a part) believing in the replacement of superstition with more scientific ideas. This overall theme is reflected in the album, 'Cold Reading'."

Bram Stoker, one of the first prog rock bands on the music scene - often compared to early Genesis and Yes - were formed by Tony Bronsdon in 1969. They soon built up a strong and devoted following, regularly playing in London at The Marquee, The Speakeasy, The Greyhound Croydon and The Roundhouse, as well as touring clubs, colleges and universities around the UK. A (then) little known band named Queen supported Bram Stoker at one Marquee show. Since the release of 'Heavy Rock Spectacular', on vinyl on Windmill Records in 1972, the album has become a collector's item, and proclaimed as 'a true lost pearl of original prog'. Inevitable bootlegging ensued and CD copies of 'Heavy Rock Spectacular' appeared on various labels worldwide.

'Cold Reading', a glorious keyboard extravaganza packed with floating, soaring, modern sounding melodies, which still possess the golden keys of the past, more than lives up to expectations for this long overdue Bram Stoker album.

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October 24th 2013***