

Mods vs Rockers and we started rehearsing finally at around 3.30

Tuesday, 26 February 2008

as we had a lot to do and I initially told everyone to try and be there at 1pm? ready to start by 2pm, but as always somebody is always late. Anyway the guys have been aware for some time about this show, and so everyone does their homework, and like baking a cake we all bring it to the mix !!!

Mods vs Rockers? well I expect that whatever side you were on? and you had to make a choice...the songs never wore clothes, or had hair cuts, and I am sure that good and great songs were loved by all. The true Champions of the Mod Era were undoubtedly The Who, who dressed sharp and had their finger on the pulse of the nation. It is incredible when you look at the four individuals, and realise that there could have been no other that would have made The Who what it is and continues to be. Amazing music and what characters. Nobody catches the youth of today in such a way as they did.

Anyway we had a lot of work to do, and the only problem of starting at midday is you get tired and hungry. When we were in full flow, everything was closed so we soldiered on. Shakin all over came together very quickly as did Summertime Blues. We spent a long time on Lets Spend the Night Together and it will be great after a few more go's. Sympathy for the Devil was awesome as Johnny Marter made it his own, as there are no drums on the original record just masses of percussion....we knew it would be great. Kashmir took so long, as Johnny Marter and Mickey were meticulous in every department, and I would not have it any other way. Good Times Bad Times was fantastic, and I really got hold of the vocal. Now we do a few more and the time is creeping up but we call it a day for rehearsing nearly 3 and a half intensive hours, when all the cavalry start to arrive.

Mr Feenstra, Mr Mcfall, and all the bar staff turn up, and we decide to eat and retire to the dressing room, where we talk even more about the gig, the new songs, arrangements and then take a quick nap to boost energy levels. Some light refreshment for the guys (Shandy or two) as the clock brings it up to 9pm, and water is readied for stage consumption. By the end of the night, through the rehearsal, I will have consumed 4 litres. Smiles and a bit of anxiety, as what we are trying is pretty adventurous, but thats us !!! Mickey starts up Lets Spend the Night Together, and already there is some hesitation, and we are not moving like the thoroughbred we are, and sadly it starts to go wrong, but we push on and the crowd goes crazy. This is without doubt our home gig along with the Half Moon and tonight at the Boom Boom they are simply the best. They are a very knowledgeable crowd, and know when mistakes are made, but tonight they lift us, into much more familiar songs and then we hit the groove. Big smiles and laughing as that is what it is all about. The boys are playing absolutely brilliantly, and solos are applauded and each individual is giving the gig everything. We are totally in synch, especially on Behind Blue Eyes which is a classic, and the harmonies between me and Mr M, are so on the money and it just feels great.

I introduce the biggest Rockers of all and BAM BAM.....BAM BAM the opening chords start up Good Times Bad Times how intuitive was that title? as Good Times for the first song, and it was flawless, but Oh I lost the plot on Kashmir as the arrangement went mushy in my head, and I was floundering....maybe a bridge too far for me, as the voice was really tested through all the singing but we got to the end of it, and I promise you that when we do it again, I will be so on it ,you will definately know the difference !! We are powering to the end of a 2 hour idea of myself and Pete Feenstra, that is working so well. The Audience are out of this World, singing dancing and responding in all the right places, and even allowing me to sing the first song I ever sung in public, before a paying audience, apart from my school and operatic performances at the Royal Opera House Covent Garden, and I sang "Your Baby has gone down the Plughole" and they roasted me but it was great fun !!!

Now I asked the audience to sing the returns on Magic Bus and it turned into, for me, one of the highlights of the evening, along with Sympathy for the Devil. Absolute magic evening, and when we trouped off, I am sure that no one wanted to go home, as it was just one superb night. Thank you all to those that were there, and who took the time, and posted such kind words in our guest book. We look forward to doing it all again soon, and believe me we will always push new songs and keep it exciting and fresh. The Band...I salute them all for World Class Performances all, and even had a shandy myself when it was done. Please tell others about this amazing band, and come up and say hello at the gigs. We so enjoy your company and support. Come and join the Mods Army !!!

Kindest Regards Johnny Warman THE MODS