

ALIEN SEX FIEND LIVE AT WGT 2010

Concert Review on www.der-schwarze-planet.de

Leipzig, 23.05.2010, AGRA-Halle

I translated my German blog post for all the concert visitors from abroad who came to the most important Goth Fest WGT to see ASF. Furthermore, it is for the ASF-fans who had to stay at home in the UK, U.S. or anywhere else. Please bear with me, this is not a perfect translation because I'm not a pro in it.

The Gods of Batcave played late, very late and for some too late: the concert started at 2 o'clock in the early morning of whitsun monday. Maybe it was the Fiends pick to play at exactly this time. You know, these British guys are able to do some top-performances at any time with some English Tea and other „drugs“ provided ☺.

Before they entered stage, the likeable „official WGT-Band Announcer“ Oliver Klein tried to enlighten the German Fans about the correct pronunciation of the band's name: Is it Alien Sex **Fiiiiiiend** or Alien Sex **Feind**? Nik has told him backstage that both is OK and fine. He must have had a fit of British diplomacy!

SEE THE VIDEO – Oliver Klein announcing Alien Sex Fiend:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NySCrpa9shs>

But Shan Dark says: „Fiend“ is never pronounced as „Feind“ but always as **Fiiiiiiend**. Good that we know this now in advance of the show, so everyone can perfectly pronounce what is written on his/her ASF-shirt ☺.

Live on stage, Alien Sex Fiend are a total work of art that appeals to all our remaining senses. Visually, they catch us with a trash- and zombie-like, morbid stage decoration consisting of pierced skulls on bars, oversized spider web rags and distorted mannequin puppets. The stage is befogged during the whole show, which is a challenge for taking photos. However, it fits well to the scene.

The first one entering the stage is sexy Mrs. Fiend. She occupies her sound-laboratory on the left stage platform. Then the guitar and percussion player follows and takes place on the right platform. Don't know him but he obviously seems to be a guest musician from ZZ Top ☺. Then, to the sounds of „In And Out Of My Mind“, Nik Fiend is staggering on stage like he had risen from the dead. Like Max Schreck as Nosferatu. So real and so coool! I really can't say that I liked them better in their earlier days on stage in the videos I've seen on YouTube. To me, they are today far more authentic: a bit older, even more relaxed and ghoulish with the bald head, Nik Fiend is floating like a friendly ghost over the stage. He never moves fast, because Zombies are not fast at all! Sometimes he drags himself through the wafts of mist, rocks his body a bit, all body moves are sloooow – only a few times he suddenly bursts in action. For instance when fighting with a giant banana. As I got to know, this is a reminiscence to their earlier shows where he did some „experiments“ with a real banana. Maybe someone knows more about that rumours? Soon, Mr. Fiend throws the giant banana into the audience where we have fun with it. Later this morning at the „When We Were Young“-Party I've seen a Batcave-Punk dancing with a 70cm-banana the whole evening. Haha, great to see that...

For our aural senses there are „freshly live mixed“ sounds by Mrs. Fiend. Although the Aliens have a new album on the go called „Death Trip“ they only play one song of it („One Way

Ticket“) but the rest of the show their well-known hits like „I Walk The Line“, „Now I’m Feeling Zombified“ and my all-time favourite „E.S.T. – Trip To The Moon“. Along with that, Mr. and Mrs. Fiend are talking to each other. Apparently (or is it only „for the show“), she has problems with the power in her sound-laboratory (Nik: „Seems, like someone switched the power off...“). Ahead of some songs there are short breaks. Nik explains: „This is not a laptop.“ You can see and hear that – the boss lady is mixing and making it all on her own – brilliant and ingenious! Mad about it, me and the crowd is dancing.

SEE THE VIDEO „Gotta have it (sliced and diced mix)“:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fXkfQc8fb3k>

Alien Sex Fiend play about 1,5 hours and time flies. Nik reads from his IT-book (also in a giant format) and you have to see his face then – it is beyond words. During and in between the songs he sits from time to time between Mrs. Fiend and „ZZ Top guy“, smokes one cigarette after another, drinks from white and brown cups, babbles something to us into the microphone – sth. with such a strong accent that I’m not the only one who doesn’t understand it. Anyway, the show is great and only by my hurting legs and feet I realize that the day was long and we are standing here for already quite a while. But dancing helps to get over it! Or the „wake-up-stroboscope“ that the Aliens switch on with „Now I’m Feeling Zombified“, the second last song. Along with „Zombified“, Nik Fiend is emptying the rubbish bin standing on stage and throws skulls and bones into the audience – very much to our pleasure 😊.

SEE THE VIDEO „Alien Sex Fiend with bones“:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pPsPacSj0JQ>

But I also have to criticise a bit: the strobe light at the last 2 songs was definitely too much! I’m fine with strobe for about 3-4 minutes but we were really tortured with it for about 15 minutes. You couldn’t see anything on stage anymore – not even where the skulls are thrown. The stage only consisted of flashes and flashes, couldn’t see anything else. There might be people having no problem with stroboscopes, but I definitely wasn’t the only one: saw quite a lot with their heads down not looking on stage anymore or holding their hand in front of eyes. Dear Fiends, even if it is part of the show...sometimes less is more!

After an electronic soundflash version of „Hurricane Fighter Plane“ Alien Sex Fiend disappears from stage mostly unnoticed by the audience. Mrs. Fiend says some parting words in German „Dankeschön“ and „Gute Nacht“. Raging applause for the show! To me, Alien Sex Fiend was the concert highlight of this years WGT. Sure, I will see them again – its a cult band. Or, as one of my friends put it, „Alien Sex Fiend are like the Beatles – a *must see!*“