

Robin Trower – 20th Century Blues (1994)

Written by bluesever

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1. "20th Century Blues" 3:13 2. "Prisoner of Love" 3:43 3. "Precious Gift" 4:03
4. "Whisper up a Storm" 4:02 5. "Extermination Blues" 4:51 6. "Step into the Dark"
6:08 7. "Rise up Like the Sun" 3:05 8. "Secret Place" 4:34 9. "Chase the Bone"
3:20 10. "Promise You the Stars" 3:38 11. "Don't Lose Faith in Tomorrow" 5:40 12.
"Reconsider Baby" 4:29 Musicians: Robin Trower – guitar Livingstone Brown –
bass, vocals, keyboards Mayuyu – drums

From all the carping about the vocals on this CD you'd think that the blues should only be sung by the golden-throated. By the same token, I'd be the first to admit that if William Shatner signs up as vocalist for Trower, it's one of the signs that the music world as we know it may soon be due to end.

I liked this CD so much when I first got it that I listened to the whole thing over and over again. After a while a few of the songs emerged as 'graters' - I can't listen to them on high volume or repetitively, or my skin crawls. Yet, there are also songs on this album that have NEVER worn thin. Like so many Trower CDs, there is a range of material here from ok-good to amazingly good.

20th Century Blues lives up to it's name - don't expect it to deviate much from a gritty, amplified Stratocaster blues. In that sense the vocals fit it perfectly. And, with over 20 years of devoted listening to Trower, this is one of my favorite of his works. If you like Trower and you like blues, you've gotta add this to your collection. --- Matthew W. Bovee, amazon.com

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