

Jack Bruce - The Jack Bruce Collector's Edition (1995)

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 28 October 2014 17:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 25 April 2018 21:30

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1. *Waiting on a Word* (Bruce/Brown) 2. *Ships in the Night* (Bruce/Brown) 3. *Theme for an Imaginary Western* (Bruce/Brown) 4. *Sitting On Top of the World* (Burnett) (unreleased) 5. *Life On Earth* (Bruce) 6. *NSU* (Bruce) 7. *Folksong* (Bruce/Brown) 8. *The Wind Cries Mary* (Hendrix) 9. *Politician* (Bruce/Brown) (unreleased) 10. *Rope Ladder to the Moon* (Bruce/Brown) 11. *Childsong* (Bruce/Brown/Hymas) 12. *Time Repairs* (Bruce/Brown) 13. *Third Degree* (Boyd/Dixon) 14. *Colotomix II* (Bruce/Nauseef) - Jack Bruce - vocals, bass, piano, keyboards, cello - Maggie Reilly - vocals - Eric Clapton, Gary Moore, Clem Clempson, David Torn, Miroslav Tadic & Peter Weihe - guitars - Bernie Worrell - Hammond B3 organ - David Liebman - soprano saxophone - François Garny - Bass - Ginger Baker, Simon Phillips, Trilok Gurtu, Stuart Elliot & Mark Nauseef – drums

Unlike previous Jack Bruce compilations such as *At His Best*, *Willpower*, and *The Collection*, *The Jack Bruce Collector's Edition* is not drawn from Bruce's Polydor/ATCO/RSO recordings of the late '60s and '70s. Rather, it chronicles his recordings for the German CMP label in the 1980s and early '90s. This is still the Jack Bruce familiar to Cream fans, with fellow Cream members Eric Clapton sitting in on guitar on "Waiting on a Word" and "Ships in the Night" (from 1993's *Somethin' Els*) and Ginger Baker on drums on the Cream favorites "Sitting on Top of the World" and "NSU" (from the 1994 live album *Cities of the Heart*), and also including a re-recording of the Cream song "Politician." And it is the Jack Bruce of his early solo albums, with new versions of "Theme from an Imaginary Western" and "Rope Ladder to the Moon." But it is also the adventurous, jazzy singer/songwriter of 1995's *Monkjack*, from which the tracks "Folksong," "Time Repairs," and "Third Degree" are borrowed. So, while this collection does not contain a career-spanning set of Bruce's greatest hits, it does cover what for many fans may be a lost decade in the artist's catalog, demonstrating that during that period he was both reexamining his earlier work and creating significant new music. ---William Ruhlmann, allmusic.com

October 25, 2014. Jack Bruce, the singer and bassist for Rock and Roll Hall of Fame band Cream, has passed away, his family confirmed the musician's passing on his Facebook page. He was 71. "It is with great sadness that we, Jack's family, announce the passing of our beloved Jack: husband, father, granddad, and all round legend. The world of music will be a poorer place without him, but he lives on in his music and forever in our hearts," the Bruce family wrote. Bruce's publicist added, "He died today at his home in Suffolk surrounded by his family." No other details were revealed but the Press Association reports that the bassist suffered from liver disease.

As one-third of one of rock's greatest trios, along with guitarist Eric Clapton and drummer Ginger Baker, Bruce was the voice and songwriter behind classic tracks like "White Room," "SWLABR," and "Sunshine of Your Love," which Bruce co-wrote with Clapton. Considered to be the first rock "supergroup," Cream pumped out four studio albums in three years – three of which landed on Rolling Stone's 500 Greatest Albums of All Time – before going their separate ways.

The band reunited briefly in 1993 for their Rock Hall induction, then again in for a triumphant series of 2005 concerts at London's Royal Albert Hall and New York's Madison Square Garden. In 2006, Bruce and his Cream mates received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Bruce also occasionally served as a member of Ringo Starr's All-Starr Band and collaborated on the title track of Frank Zappa's *Apostrophe*.

Following Cream's breakup in 1968, Bruce kickstarted a long solo career with 1969's *Songs of a Tailor*. He would release over a dozen solo LPs over the next 45 years, including his latest album titled *Silver Rails* in March 2014. "I quite like to just enjoy my life. I'm thrilled to make this album. I put my heart and soul into it, and I'm very pleased with the way it came out," Bruce told *Rolling Stone* of his new album in April.

Cream also landed on *Rolling Stone*'s list of the 100 Greatest Artists, and in an ode to the trio written by Roger Waters, the Pink Floyd bassist writes, "Then there's Jack Bruce — probably the most musically gifted bass player who's ever been." ---Daniel Kreps, rollingstone.com

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