ZZ Top - El Loco (1981)



1. "Tube Snake Boogie" – 3:03 2. "I Wanna Drive You Home" – 4:44 3. "Ten Foot Pole" – 4:19 4. "Leila" – 3:13 5. "Don't Tease Me" – 4:20 6. "It's So Hard" – 5:12 7. "Pearl Necklace" – 4:02 8. "Groovy Little Hippie Pad" – 2:40 9. "Heaven, Hell or Houston" – 2:32 10. "Party on the Patio" – 2:49 Musicians: Billy Gibbons – guitar, vocals Dusty Hill – bass, keyboards, vocals Frank Beard – drums, percussion

El Loco follows through on the streamlined, jet-engine boogie rock of Degüello, but kicking all the ingredients up a notch. That means that the grooves are getting a little slicker, while the jokes are getting a little sillier, a little raunchier. The double entendres on "Tube Snake Boogie" and "Pearl Necklace" are barely disguised, while much of the record plays as flat-out goofy party rock. Not necessarily a bad thing, but much of it is a little too obvious to be totally winning. Still, the most telling thing about El Loco may be the rhythm of "Pearl Necklace," its biggest single and best song, which clearly points the way to the new wave blues-rock of Eliminator. --- Stephen Thomas Erlewine

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