

Mp3 Cloud Party - Real



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Literate lyrics and passionate guitar work, reminiscent of Pink Floyd, REM, Neil Young and Elvis Costello (imagine that)! 9 MP3 Songs ROCK: Classic Rock, ROCK: Americana Details: Jim Speese, lead singer/songwriter of Cloud Party, confesses to having written "well over" two hundred songs in his career. He has played all over, from New York City to Montana to San Francisco. Jim has also hiked several months on the Appalachian Trail, lived and worked in Yellowstone National Park and written several (unpublished) novels. In addition to Cloud Party, Jim also writes a music column for his hometown daily paper (The Reading Eagle, circ 120,000) as well as play the occasional solo show. As musical influences, Jim cites "whatever I last heard" as well as a host of films and novels. If pressed, he'll reluctantly mention John Lennon, Sinead O'Connor, The Clash, Pink Floyd (with Roger Waters) and Concrete Blonde. Mark Steffy responded to Jim's classified ad a looking for a lead guitarist a few years ago, and the two have been inseparable since. Mark's passionate, growling guitar has become a Cloud Party signature. He is an aficionado of Mark Knopfler, Hendrix, David Gilmour, and The Stones, just to name a few. Rounding out the recent incarnation of Cloud Party are drummer Joe Donato and bassist Pete Scarano. Both are professional musicians with loads of live and studio experience, and give Cloud Party a solid and driving rhythm section. Literate guitar-based indie rock compared to Pink Floyd, REM, Neil Young and Elvis Costello, Cloud Party's newest album "Real" is a thematic, virtual "live" album. The album was recorded during a live internet broadcast and heavily augmented in the studio. Searing, tasteful guitar-work, reminiscent of David Gilmour or Mark Knopfler, highlights this CD, along with intelligent and emotional lyrics that read as poetry. There has been a lot of talk lately about "a return to guitar-based rock'n'roll" but most of that is just watered-down punk or grunge. Cloud Party, however, is the real deal. This album is full of emotion, feel, touches of folk. And while some tracks are certainly radio-friendly, there is nothing

watered down or edited for television here. Says Kira Schlechter, Harrisburg Patriot-News, (Dec 31, 2000): "Cloud Party's new album, "Real," is "a collection of sophisticated, mature, sardonic, tunes" that "proved that guitar rock isn't dead. A great effort by a band destined for great things. (One of the year's ten best)"

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