

## ULI JON ROTH – Guitar, Vocals

ULI JON ROTH is one of the most influential guitarists of all time. He is renowned for his soaring, singing melodies, performed with a rich and expressive range of tones. This is coupled with a dazzling technique and an unrivalled mastery of expression on his instrument.

ULI JON ROTH is currently touring the world to celebrate his 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of joining the SCORPIONS. His program features a complete set of Scorpions songs from the so-called “Uli Era” from 1974 to 1978, including tracks that have never been performed live by either the Scorpions or Roth himself.

### A BIT OF HISTORY

Born Dec 18th, 1954 in Düsseldorf, Germany, Uli Jon Roth made his mark on the world of Rock’n’Roll already as a teenager. During his five year tenure as a member of German band SCORPIONS in the early seventies, he already built the foundation for his status of rock guitar legend the world over. He recorded five albums with the band, each one of these reaching iconic status in the history of rock music: FLY TO THE RAINBOW (1974), IN TRANCE (1975), VIRGIN KILLER (1976) and TAKEN BY FORCE (1977). His farewell album from that period, a live album recorded in Japan in 1978 by the name of TOKYO TAPES, is generally recognised as a milestone in the history of rock and has sold nearly a million copies to date.

During his final year with the Scorpions, Uli Jon Roth felt increasingly stifled by the confinements of mainstream rock music and decided to leave the group in order to found a band of his own, ELECTRIC SUN. With this band Uli created a unique and unmistakable style, which progressed and matured during the course of three studio albums. Tours through Europe and the US established Electric Sun internationally as an important precursor of later musical trends.

Classical music has always played a fundamental role in Uli’s musical view of the world. Even during his time with the Scorpions, it was above all his classical training – combined with a palpable influence of JIMI HENDRIX – which set his playing apart and which brought him international recognition. Guitar heavyweights like EDDIE VAN HALEN, YNGWIE MALMSTEEN, KIRK HAMMETT (Metallica) and JOE SATRIANI continue to name him as a major influence.

Over time Uli Jon Roth’s classical leanings took the front seat: He wrote no less than four symphonies, one concerto as well as a piano solo composition

AQUILA SUITE. His first symphony, EUROPA EX FAVILLA, received its premiere in Belgium in 1993 within the framework of a concert televised by German TV. The music was performed by the BRUSSELS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA under the title SYMPHONIC ROCK FOR EUROPE. The three-hour long show was a resounding success with the audience and presented a novel, though organic mixture of classical and rock music. The line-up on stage consisted of nearly one hundred participants including rock singers, band, classical choir and the symphony orchestra.

U.J.R.'s follow-up project SKY OF AVALON sold 40 000 copies on the first day of its release in Japan. At the same time U.J.R. took part in a TV charity event hosted by JOSÉ CARRERAS, which featured the THREE TENORS, SARAH BRIGHTMAN, MONSERRAT CABALLE, UDO JÜRGENS and BONNIE TYLER among others. Together with his one time colleague, SCORPIONS singer KLAUS MEINE and the PRAGUE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA, he performed one of the Sky of Avalon pieces, BRIDGE TO HEAVEN.

Despite his love for classical music, U.J.R. has nevertheless still felt drawn to Rock. In 1991 he acted as musical director for a German television show in a major series called ROCKPALAST. Title of the show was A DIFFERENT SIDE OF JIMI HENDRIX. This show later became the most frequently broadcast Rockpalast special in its long history and has been transmitted more than twenty times since then.

In 1998 ULI JON ROTH accepted an invitation by master guitarist JOE SATRIANI to participate in a large-scale European tour of the G3, an almost annual meeting of guitar greatness, featuring three top class virtuosos alongside host Satriani. Highlights of this tour included an onstage jam session with BRIAN MAY at London's Wembley Arena and a tremendously successful U.J.R. performance at the MONSTERS OF ROCK in Turin, Italy. This was followed by the release of a double album TRANSCENDENTAL SKY GUITAR.

A further milestone in U.J.R.'s career was his headlining appearance at the ROCK & BLUES FESTIVAL at CASTLE DONINGTON in the UK in 2001. His special guests on stage included rock legends JACK BRUCE (CREAM), UFO with MICHAEL SCHENKER, DON AIREY and CLIVE BUNKER (JETHRO TULL, ELECTRIC SUN). This concert was later released as a DVD under the title LEGENDS OF ROCK by SPV. A large scale UK tour under the same title followed one year later, which also featured GLENN HUGHES (ex-DEEP PURPLE) and Uli's friend and guitar legend FRANK MARINO (MAHOGANY RUSH).

In 2003 Uli recorded his critically acclaimed METAMORPHOSIS OF THE SEASONS in his studio in Wales. The album contains an ingenious version of the complete FOUR SEASONS by ANTONIO VIVALDI as well as an original new concerto by Roth which is entitled METAMORPHOSIS CONCERTO. Together with his own creation, SKY ORCHESTRA, Roth produced a truly monumental album. U.J.R.'s precise rendition of Vivaldi's timeless masterpiece on the guitar is only feasible because of the unique instrument, his SKY GUITAR. U.J.R. invented this now legendary instrument in order to obtain nearly twice the tonal range of a conventional guitar. This means that it enables him to play in the highest registers of the violin range as well as those of the Cello. Hand built Sky Guitars are now available as a limited edition model through DEAN GUITARS.

In 2005, Uli Jon Roth played his first re-union concert with his old band SCORPIONS in Colmar, France. This was followed by many others in England, Germany and Greece. In 2006, the SCORPIONS performed a reunion concert at the world's biggest Heavy Metal festival, the Wacken Open Air in Germany, in front of more than 80 000 people featuring Uli and Michael Schenker. The concert resulted in a DVD release, A NIGHT TO REMEMBER.

During that same year 2006, Uli Jon Roth founded a teaching facility in Los Angeles and named it SKY ACADEMY with the purpose of sharing his musical philosophy which transcends purely technical wizardry to find profound artistic depth and to awake one's musical potential. The first five day seminar was held at the UCLA and included three epic SKY ACADEMY CONCERTS with a plethora of 25 guest artists, including ROBBIE KRIEGER of the DOORS, DON DOKKEN and MICHELANGELO BATIÒ. Since then Uli has held over fifty Sky Academy seminars in many different countries. With their wide-reaching range of teachings, these seminars have proved very popular not only with musicians, but also non-musicians and fans. Uli loves teaching and is currently preparing his first Sky Academy book.

The following year Uli played at two big German festivals as guest of the SMASHING PUMPKINS. At one of them, Rock Am Ring, Uli played some unforgettable guitar solos together with the Pumpkins' BILLY CORGAN in front of 90 000 people. This was followed by a joint starring appearance which featured Billy Corgan and Uli Jon Roth in a TV show DURCH DIE NACHT on European ARTE Television. Due to his skills as an improviser on the guitar, Uli has often been invited to spontaneous guest appearances with other artists. Over the years, Uli appeared and jammed with DEEP PURPLE, SLASH, PAUL GILBERT, DORO, AVANTASIA, GAMMA RAY, RICHIE KOTZEN and many others.

In 2008 Uli Jon Roth released a new studio album, UNDER A DARK SKY, which featured a full orchestra as well as rock musicians. LIZ VANDALL and MARK BOALS were sharing lead vocals. The album was first premiered live at the KITARANAKI GUITAR FESTIVAL in New Zealand, where Uli taught several Sky Academy seminars in auditoriums to school children in three high schools. This was followed by large tours on several continents in recent years.

In 2013, Uli debuted at the ROYAL ALBERT HALL in London, performing for the SUNFLOWER CHARITY, which is dedicated to alternative cancer research. On this memorable evening, Uli shared the stage with BRUCE DICKINSON, BRIAN MAY, JOHN PAUL JONES, BRIAN AUGER, ALFIE BOE, ALICE COOPER and IAN PAICE.

With his current tour of legendary Scorpions tracks from the influential early era of the band, Uli keeps on amazing rockers, guitar freaks and aficionados of classical music alike. An extensive US/Canada tour earlier in 2013 featuring the Scorpions set was recorded live for a future release. And there is even new material on the horizon... As it seems, the journey of one of the world's finest guitarists is far from over.



## NIKLAS TURMANN – Guitar, Vocals

Niklas Turmann, born on the 5<sup>th</sup> of February in 1982 in Marbug (Germany), started playing the guitar at the age of 9 years.

He studied jazz-, rock-, pop-Guitar at the University of Hannover.

In 2008 Niklas formed the progressive rock band 'Crystal Breed' together with his longtime friend and keyboard player Corvin Bahn.

Since then he is also the lead singer and rhythm guitarist of the Uli Jon Roth Band, with whom he has been touring all around the world.

As a touring guitarist, Niklas also joined Fair Warning on two tours in Japan and is a constant member of the legendary *krautrock* band 'Jane'.

Furthermore he is a demanded guitar player and singer in several studios, on sessions and various band projects



## CORVIN BAHN – Keyboards

"Having played the piano since he was six 6 and been subjected to classical music instructions, he soon became fascinated by the complex music of 1970s rock bands like “Genesis”, “Yes” or “Queen”. He also visited the world of jazz while studying music at university. Corvin has toured the world with various bands like “Gamma Ray”, "Saxon", "Kamelot" and artists such as “Uli Jon Roth”. Corvin also participated in dozens of studio recordings as a pianist, keyboardist, arranger, composer and orchestrator in various genres. He is, of course, the keyboardist of his own band, “Crystal Breed”."



## DAVID KLOSINSKY – Guitar

David Klosinski was born on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November 1985 in Poland but grew up in Hamburg, Germany. After graduating school, he began teaching guitar at the School of Music in Hamburg. However his guitar career began long before that. David primarily is a studio and session musician from Hamburg who began playing the guitar at the age of 6. He won the Crossroads Guitar Award 2012 in Germany and since 2012 he has been playing shows with Uli Jon Roth all over the world.

