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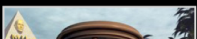
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REVIEWS



THE GREAT BRITISH ROCK & BLUES FESTIVAL 27-29 January 2012 DEBORAH BONHAM

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With a name like Bonham, you just know that you're in the presence of Rock royalty. **Deborah Bonham** is the sister of Led Zeppelin legend John Bonham and the Auntie of Black Country Communion drummer Jason. The main difference here is Deborah doesn't play the drums, but she does possess one hell of a powerful, edgy voice. Having

overcome an early sound problem, Bonham performed songs from her forthcoming album, including the soulful "I Need Love" and the menacing "Killing Field", alongside fan favorites such as the funky-edged "Jack Past 8" and "Pretty Thing" with its Free-like groove. The moving "The Old Hyde", a song about her old family home built by her father and brothers, was dedicated to those who have lost loved ones. Ending with the Zeppelin chestnut "Rock And Roll" guaranteed her set ended on a high. A great performance by an excellent singer.

It's a rare feat in this day and age to muster up a couple of original members in a long-standing band, but to have a full hand is something that maybe only ZZ Top and Aersomith can boast ... and **Argent**. Built around the Hammond organ histrionics of Rod Argent and the talents of songwriting genius Russ Ballard, Argent played a blinder. With the dual lead vocals of Argent and Ballard, they launched into a classic-laden set including "It's Only Money", "Liar", and "Be Free" with its excellent Uriah Heep-style harmonies. It was inevitably the hits searing climax of their signature tune "I'm Going Home", featuring a fantastic guitar workout, culminating into a mini Rock 'n' Roll medley of "Hound Dog" and Blue Suede Shoes".



The DJ is off-line

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