

cheap trick tour history 1979

Cheap Trick tour history 1979 is a fascinating chapter in the story of one of America's most beloved rock bands. During this pivotal year, Cheap Trick solidified their reputation as a powerhouse live act, gained widespread recognition, and released their breakthrough album, all while navigating the complexities of the music industry. This article delves into the events of 1979 that marked a significant turning point for Cheap Trick, examining their tours, album releases, and the impact of their performances on their career trajectory.

Background of Cheap Trick

Formed in 1973 in Rockford, Illinois, Cheap Trick consisted of lead singer Robin Zander, guitarist Rick Nielsen, bassist Tom Petersson, and drummer Bun E. Carlos. Combining elements of pop, punk, and classic rock, the band developed a unique sound that would later influence many artists. By the mid-1970s, Cheap Trick had built a loyal following through extensive touring and high-energy performances.

Early Tours and Breakthrough

Before 1979, Cheap Trick had already embarked on several tours, promoting their first two albums, "Cheap Trick" (1977) and "In Color" (1978). Their relentless touring helped them gain a reputation as an electrifying live band. In 1978, they caught the attention of producer George Martin, who is best known for his work with The Beatles. This collaboration would set the stage for their third album.

1979: A Year of Transformation

1979 proved to be a transformative year for Cheap Trick. It marked the release of their third studio album, "At Budokan," a live recording that would catapult them to international fame.

Release of "At Budokan" Album

In April 1979, Cheap Trick released "At Budokan," which captured the band's exhilarating live performance in Tokyo, Japan, recorded in 1978. The album featured some of their most popular songs, including:

- "I Want You to Want Me"
- "Surrender"
- "Ain't That a Shame"
- "Clock Strikes Ten"

The live recording showcased the band's ability to engage and energize an audience. "At Budokan" was met with critical acclaim and commercial success, eventually becoming one of the best-selling live albums of all time.

Touring Japan and North America

Following the release of "At Budokan," Cheap Trick embarked on a massive tour that spanned both Japan and North America. This tour was crucial in establishing their reputation as an iconic live act.

Japanese Tour

Cheap Trick's tour in Japan was remarkable not just for its success but for its significance in the band's career. The following points highlight the impact of their time in Japan:

1. **Cultural Significance:** Japan embraced Cheap Trick wholeheartedly, and their popularity soared. The band was viewed as rock stars, and their concerts were often sold out.
2. **Fan Engagement:** Cheap Trick's performances in Japan were characterized by the enthusiastic response from fans, which further motivated the band to deliver high-energy shows.
3. **Media Attention:** The tour received extensive media coverage in Japan, enhancing their profile and setting the stage for their North American success.

North American Tour

After their triumphant return from Japan, Cheap Trick continued their tour in North America. They performed at various venues, including:

- Madison Square Garden, New York City
- The Forum, Los Angeles
- The Spectrum, Philadelphia

These shows were integral to solidifying their fan base and introducing new audiences to their music. The band's unique blend of catchy melodies, hard rock riffs, and engaging stage presence captivated fans across the continent.

Musical Style and Influence

Cheap Trick's music in 1979 showcased a blend of influences that set them apart from their peers. Their sound was characterized by:

- **Power Pop:** Catchy hooks and melodies with a pop sensibility.

- Hard Rock: Influences from classic rock, featuring heavy guitar riffs and driving rhythms.
- Punk Elements: An energetic and rebellious attitude reminiscent of the punk rock movement.

This combination allowed Cheap Trick to appeal to a broad audience and influenced many musicians who followed in their footsteps.

Key Songs from 1979

In addition to the tracks featured on "At Budokan," Cheap Trick released several notable songs in 1979, including:

- "Dream Police" (single released in 1979, later featured on the album of the same name)
- "I Want You to Want Me" (the live version from "At Budokan" became a major hit)
- "Surrender" (a staple of their live performances)

These songs showcased the band's ability to craft engaging and memorable tunes, which contributed to their rising popularity.

Impact and Legacy

The events of 1979 had a profound impact on Cheap Trick's career and the music industry as a whole. The success of "At Budokan" not only established the band as a major force in rock music but also set a precedent for the live album format.

Enduring Popularity

Cheap Trick's rise to fame in 1979 laid the foundation for their enduring popularity. They continued to

tour and release albums throughout the 1980s and beyond, maintaining a loyal fan base. Their music remains influential, and they are often cited as a major influence by contemporary bands.

Recognition and Awards

Over the years, Cheap Trick has received numerous accolades, including:

- Induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2016
- Multiple Grammy nominations
- A dedicated fan following that spans generations

Their impact on rock music is undeniable, and their legacy continues to thrive.

Conclusion

The Cheap Trick tour history 1979 represents a significant turning point for the band, marked by their successful live album "At Budokan" and a series of electrifying performances that captured the hearts of fans worldwide. The year solidified their reputation as one of rock's most enduring acts and paved the way for their continued success in the decades to come. As they celebrate their legacy, Cheap Trick remains a testament to the power of live music and the enduring spirit of rock and roll.

Frequently Asked Questions

What was the significance of Cheap Trick's 1979 tour?

The 1979 tour was significant as it helped cement Cheap Trick's reputation as a leading rock band, showcasing their energetic performances and solidifying their fan base.

Which album did Cheap Trick promote during their 1979 tour?

During their 1979 tour, Cheap Trick promoted their album 'At Budokan', which was recorded live in Japan and became one of their most successful releases.

How did the 1979 tour impact Cheap Trick's popularity in the United States?

The 1979 tour significantly boosted Cheap Trick's popularity in the United States, leading to increased radio play and higher album sales, particularly due to the success of 'At Budokan'.

What are some notable songs performed by Cheap Trick during their 1979 tour?

Notable songs performed during the tour included 'I Want You to Want Me', 'Surrender', and 'Dream Police', which became fan favorites.

Did Cheap Trick experience any memorable performances during their 1979 tour?

Yes, one of the most memorable performances was at the Budokan in Tokyo, where they recorded their iconic live album, capturing the energy of their shows.

How did Cheap Trick's 1979 tour influence future rock tours?

Cheap Trick's 1979 tour set a precedent for live albums and concert tours, emphasizing the importance of high-energy performances and audience engagement.

Were there any challenges faced by Cheap Trick during the 1979 tour?

Despite their success, Cheap Trick faced challenges such as managing their rising fame, navigating

the pressures of touring, and dealing with the expectations from fans and the industry.

Who were the members of Cheap Trick during the 1979 tour?

The members of Cheap Trick during the 1979 tour were Robin Zander (vocals, rhythm guitar), Rick Nielsen (lead guitar, backing vocals), Tom Petersson (bass guitar), and Bun E. Carlos (drums).

What lasting legacy did Cheap Trick's 1979 tour leave in rock music?

The lasting legacy of Cheap Trick's 1979 tour includes inspiring future rock bands to embrace live performance culture and the importance of connecting with audiences, as well as influencing the sound of power pop.

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