BON JOVI
*Sloppy When Wet*
(Vertigo VERH 38)
Released 1986

Jon Bon Jovi (vocals), Richie Sambora (guitar), Alec Jon Such (bass), Dave Bryan (keyboards), Tico Torres (drums)

AHA! THE album that promoted sales of baby oil worldwide.
But despite being 'Sloppy With Innuendo,' 'SWW' was undoubtedly the LP that stuck,
Jon Bon Jovi's little ass firmly on the top of the platinum Christmas tree (ouch!).

An' the pressure was well and truly on them after the critical indifference to "7800 Fahrenheit,'
but they delivered their next vinyl offspring like proud fathers; glowing, beaming and boastful.

It held a brace of singles that sent the midnight world of the rock club into a boppin' frenzy:
"You Give Love A Bad Name" and "Livin' On A Prayer".

They had cowboy-booted feet dancing a frantic two-step and teased hair rockin' til it dropped.
We loved 'em.

'Social Disease' slithered around on its dirty laugh content,
while 'Wanted Dead Or Alive' delivered an unforgettable atmosphere you could cut with a bountiful hunter's knife.

It also signalled the beginning of Jon's cowboy fixation ('I'm a cowboy/On a steel horse I ride/ I'm wanted, dead or alive')--
maybe the poor guy fell off a rocking horse when he was a little boy?!

'Raise Your Hands' opened up Side Two and the live show (an'

JON BON JOVI displays dismal lack of basic drinking skills

what a show!) and was, perhaps, generally overlooked as one of
the album's real highlights. It was certainly the one Jon loved,
letting him screech out the name of his much-touted home state
every night: 'From New York to Chicago, from New Jersey to
Tokyo...'

But on entering Quebec's Le Studio in October 1980, they
opted to discipline themselves and record short-format rock
numbers. This despite lyricist Peart's ever-broadening literary
influences begging even greater scope and freedom. The result:
an album of seven songs filled to
the very brim with power,
innovativeness and sound.

'Moving Pictures' is probably the busiest album Rush have ever
made, and to this day I can't imagine how the band
and producer Terry Brown crammed
it all in in just two months
recording and mixing time.

But they did, and hence you are already familiar with the

RUSH
*Moving Pictures*
(Mercury 6337 160)
Released 1981

Geddy Lee (bass/synths/vocals), Alex Lifeson (guitars), Neil Peart (drums/percussion)

AFTER AN historical tradition of lengthy epics, and the
unexpected commercial success of the short and nifty 'The Spirit
Of Radio' single from their previous LP, Rush were in many ways caught between a rock and
a hard place when they set about

NEIL JEFFRIES

Unsurpassed...and unequalled.

30
Rush

a show of hands

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