SLASH FEATURING MYLES KENNEDY & THE CONSPIRATORS

Critical Soundbites so far for new album ‘WORLD ON FIRE’

“The group [Slash with Myles Kennedy and The Conspirators] is now three albums into their career, and its latest, WORLD ON FIRE (Dik Hayd)--tracked as usual on analog tape--features some of the warmest-rock guitar textures, most dimensional and contrapuntal guitar arrangements, and most downright killin’ riffs Slash has ever delivered. It also features camaraderie, chemistry, work ethic, and to use a rhythm section term, gelling that Slash-after paying more than his share of drama dues with those other two bands-certainly deserves. In Kennedy, Slash has found a lead singer who not only kills both the new stuff and the old, he also shows up to soundcheck on time. Guns, Revolver and Snakepit were all cool, but Slash now playing huge crowds under his own name, and playing the music he wants to, has finally found his real dream band.”

--Jude Gold, GUITAR PLAYER (Cover story, Oct. 2014)

“Slash’s latest, WORLD ON FIRE, showcases the explosive chemistry that began to evolve among Slash, Kennedy and the Conspirators… Spiced with the occasional ballad, WORLD ON FIRE is nonetheless focused firmly on what Slash does best--delivering searing, guitar-drenched rock. In his nearly three-decade career, that consistency has never wavered.”

--M MUSIC & MUSICIANS, Russell Hall, COVER story (Feb-April 2015)

“…another bold and unapologetically riffy statement, exemplified in high-octane barnburners like the title track, '30 Years To Life' and 'Avalon.' But there’s also plenty of diversity in the album’s 17-yes 17 tracks from the epic ‘Iris of the Storm’ and the cinematic, dark-hued ‘The
Unholy,’” to the soaring pop-rock workout ‘The Dissident’ and the instrumental guitar showcase ‘Safari Inn.’ It’s a varied, immersive and incredibly hard rocking effort.”

--Rich Bienstock, GUITAR WORLD (December 2014)

“[World On Fire] embodies all the chaos and intensity the title suggests.”

--FUSE TV

“The title track is an energetic rock anthem filled with the unmistakably jagged bluesy riffs and solos from Slash’s guitar. Other highlights are the unstoppable ‘Wicked Stone’ and the more mellow ‘Avalon.’”

--THE SUN, U.K. (Sept 20, 2014)

“…A high octane ride.”

--Jules Boyle, SUNDAY MAIL U.K. (Sept 21, 2014)

“You haven’t heard rock ‘n’ roll like this in a long time. In fact, Slash, Myles Kennedy and the Conspirators—Todd ‘Dammit Kerns’ and Brent Fitz—delivered a brash, ballsy, and brilliant seventeen-song slab in the form of WORLD ON FIRE. Slash’s third solo album feels like a new beginning not only for the guitar god, but for rock music as well.”

--Rick Florino, ARTISTDIRECT.COM (Sept. 15)

“From the infectious up-tempo aggressiveness of the album’s title track to the sexual politics of songs like ‘Battleground,’ ‘Dirty Girl’ and the coming-of-age ‘Bent To Fly,’ the 17-song opus [World On Fire] delves into a wide range of topics. World On Fire also features a rocking instrumental, ‘Safari Inn.’ Produced by Michael “Elvis” Baskette (Alter Bridge, Incubus), World On Fire is a diverse record that covers a multitude of musical feels with a rawness and energy that’s reminiscent of Slash’s early work with Guns N’ Roses. Make no mistake about it: World On Fire is not a solo project. It was recorded by a band with all four members contributing their strengths as a whole.”

--James Wood, GUITAR WORLD (Sept 2, 2014)

“Fans of the classic Slash guitar sound from his days with Guns N’ Roses and Velvet Revolver will hear that quality in the riffs that form the foundation of songs such as ‘Wicked Stone,’ ‘Too Far Gone’ and ‘The Dissident.’”

--Brian Mansfield, USA TODAY (Sept 16, 2014)

“The fiery energy of ‘Avalon’ is irresistible.”

--David Smyth, EVENING STANDARD U.K. (Sept 12, 2014)

“Slash continues to be among the artists determined to keep not only rock music, but the spirit of rock, alive.”

--Steve Baltin, GRAMMY MAGAZINE (Sept 17, 2014)

“‘Safari Inn’ is a heavy-duty, axe-wailing instrumental off new album ‘WORLD ON FIRE.’”

--THE TIMES U.K. (Sept 20, 2014)

“…the opening riff of the opening track (title track [‘World On Fire’]) makes it apparent that Slash hasn’t forgotten how to write aggressive, in-your-face hooks, and he illustrates the point further on successive tracks in the album’s first third, with ‘Automatic Overdrive,’ ‘Wicked
Stone’ and ‘30 Years to Life’ highlights on the speed parade. The soaring midtempo ‘Bent to Fly,’ the near-7-minute opus ‘Battleground,’ and the hooky ‘Dirty Girl’ are the biggest standouts, and album closer ‘The Unholy’ fascinates as an apt microcosm of the album’s myriad tempo-shifting, starting as a funeral dirge, building slowly, steadily to a rolling boil, and closing with a searing, haunting solo by the vaunted axeman.”

--Eric Walden, SALT LAKE TRIBUNE (Sept 16, 2014)

“SLASH’s appeal has always reached further than just one genre. And he’s still evolving.”

--Matt Wardlaw, ALTERNATIVE PRESS (October 2014)

“With his current band, the Conspirators--Myles Kennedy, Brent Fitz, Todd Kerns, and Frank Sidoris--it appears Slash has found something he's been looking for: a band that ignites together...This chemistry comes through on the group’s new album ‘WORLD ON FIRE.' With its cohesive sound, this naturally flowing collection of 18 barnburners provides a foundation for Slash’s extraterrestrial, high-flying tones and extensive soloing.”

--Tess Jeffers, PREMIER GUITAR, July 31, 2014

“Slash fans are in for a treat for his third solo album. He and his cohorts, Myles Kennedy and the Conspirators, give you more bang for your buck with a whopping 17 tracks and providing a little something for everyone. The album launches with the title track, which has already rocketed to the upper reaches of the rock charts. The high-energy rocker is a solid intro into the album, showcasing some of the guitar work fans expect, while allowing Kennedy to alternate between power and swagger. Slash and his band get off to a rocking start, with tracks like ‘Shadow Life,’ ‘Automatic Overdrive,’ ‘Wicked Stone’ and '30 Years to Life’ keeping the energy up in the early part of the disc. Among these tracks, ‘Automatic Overdrive’ lives up to its name as a foot-tapping, fist-pumping song with Brent Fitz helping to drive the track on drums. ‘Wicked Stone’ may be the standout of the early part of the album, with its driving opening beat, mesmerizing guitar line and moments where Todd Kerns’ bass really explodes off the disc. And for those lyric heads out there, Myles Kennedy lays out a captivating tale on '30 Years to Life.' ‘Beneath the Savage Sun’ is an epic track, with Kerns’ bass parts getting some attention and Slash getting a chance to wail at one point. ‘Dirty Girl’ offers some of the album’s grittiest guitar sounds as Slash and his crew making it feel like they’re taking the song for a walk. The disc also features a bluesy little instrumental called ‘Safari Inn’ that gives Slash a chance to shine. A lot of rock, a little blues, some definite swagger and songs that can get into your soul — what more could you ask for?”

--Chad Childers, LOUDWIRE.COM (Sept. 16)

“World On Fire showcases a guitar player at the top of his form who’s also writing some of the best material of his career. He’s an absolute riffmeister on tracks like ‘Wicked Stone,’ ‘Shadow Life,’ ‘Too Far Gone,’ ‘Withered Delilah’ and the title track ‘World On Fire,’ piling meaty bits on top of meaty bits and wrapping them up with sizzling solos. Even when he slows things down the guitar work is such that your attention never wavers. Kennedy is right there with him every step of the way.”

--Doug Gallant, THE GUARDIAN, (Sept 20, 2014)

“17 songs comprise World On Fire—that’s ambitious and to Slash’s credit, there’s not one filler tune on the album; they’re all phenomenal. …'The Dissident' is arguably the best of
the bunch, with some pretty heavy lyrics about a soldier not believing in what he's fighting for."

--Aaron Small, BRAVEWORDS (Sept. 16, 2014)

“At 17 tracks and 77 minutes long, the new album covers a large chunk of the guitarist’s career to date, including up-tempo straight ahead rockers ‘World on Fire,’ anthemic arena shakers ‘30 Years to Life,’ lighter waving ballads ‘Bent to Fly’ and fierce Metal inspired stompers ‘Beneath the Savage Sun.’ …the riff to ‘Beneath the Savage Sun’ sounds like Seattle despair-mongers Alice in Chains jamming over a South of Heaven era Slayer riff. In a world of fickle pop and hipster chic, trends come and go, but the man in the top hat continues to forge a path for the committed devotees of Hard Rock n’ Roll.”


“WORLD ON FIRE’s title track is as incendiary as its name suggests; a spring-loaded, precise burst of anthemic rock, the top-hatted icon still flaunting the scratchy style of riffage and unmistakable brand of hyper-blues solos of the Appetite days. Following suit, ‘Shadow Life’ taps into the dirty, danceable grooves of the same era, while 'Wicked Stone' rides the same rhythmic rails as Guns' runaway train. More modernized content comes in the form of 'Avalon', the soundtrack to a drive into the sunset, and 'The Dissident', custom-built for live arena engagement.”

--Andy McDonald, DROWNED IN SOUND, (Sept 16, 2014)

“[‘World On Fire’] the first proper sighting of Slash’s new album is a fine piece of riffery.”

--CLASSIC ROCK U.K. (August 2014)

“For his first solo album, Slash collaborated with several different vocalists. On 2012’s Apocalyptic Love he teamed up with Myles Kennedy and The Conspirators, which was a great combination. That lineup is intact for WORLD ON FIRE. Like their last album, World On Fire is bombastic hard rock packed with numerous potential hit singles and great guitar work. This time around, they worked with producer Michael ‘Elvis’ Baskette, and the partnership is a fruitful one. The album kicks off with the title track, which is already in the top 10 of the rock singles chart. Kennedy and Slash’s other bands have had plenty of hit singles, so it’s not surprising that they are more than capable of writing catchy, memorable songs, but the supply of hooks on this album is nearly bottomless. Nonstop touring the past couple of years has molded the band into a well-oiled machine, which is evident on this album. They move smoothly from bluesy mid-tempo rock to up tempo hard rock to ballads with ease. There are plenty of great guitar solos from Slash on the album, such as on ‘Wicked Stone,’ ‘Dirty Girl,’ the instrumental ‘Safari Inn’ and ‘Too Far Gone.’ Kennedy has one of the most unique voices in music, and his range and power are on full display throughout World On Fire. That’s especially evident on songs like the ballad ‘Bent To Fly’ where he goes from quiet and textured to belting it out. Most bands end up recording several extra songs for each album, which end up on deluxe editions or as bonus tracks. Slash did that on the last two albums, but this time decided to include them all on the regular edition. The 17 songs clock in at nearly an hour and 20 minutes, but the album’s diversity helps keep it from seeming overly long. The second half of the album doesn’t lose any momentum, propelled by the heavy ‘Beneath The Savage Sun.’ ‘Withered Delilah’ and its cowbell-driven intro is a highlight, as is the arena rocker ‘Avalon.’ The album closer is the nearly 7 minute ‘The Unholy,’ a varied and interesting song that ventures into prog territory. With World On Fire, Slash featuring Myles Kennedy and The Conspirators have really come into their own…”

--Chad Bowar, ABOUT.COM, (Sept. 16, 2014)
“His latest project is **Slash featuring Myles Kennedy and the Conspirators**--a collective ready to **rock your world in with an all-out vengeance.** The combination of **Slash** and **Myles Kennedy** from **Alter Bridge** -along with bassist Todd Kerns and drummer Brent Fitz - has unleashed phenomenal results. **WORLD ON FIRE** is their latest auditory adventure, showing all band participants at the very **height of their creative prowess.**"

--Ken Morton, **HIGHWIRE DAZE**, (Sept. 16, 2014)

“Slash and co-conspirator/Alter Bridge vocalist Myles Kennedy have really gelled on the previous releases, and it continues through this one. Both have stretched the boundaries on the album. On the other hand as expected we hear **relentless guitar; dirty, bluesy riffs and several different guitar techniques.** There’s great energy in ‘World on Fire,’ which is exactly what you would want in a rock record.”

--Tim Rockin, **ST. CLOUD TIMES**, (Sept.17, 2014)

“…a lot of time was spent working out the sequencing with **WORLD ON FIRE** and it shows. Not once did I get bored. The tunes roll by at a nice pace starting with the fairly fast title track ‘World On Fire’ and taking the pace down a little for the second song ‘Shadow Life,’ which features one of my favorite guitar solos in this collection…As far as rock anthems go, you have a lot to choose from on this latest offering from Slash and The Conspirators, but ’30 Years To Life’ and ‘Beneath The Savage Sun’ are likely to be the two stands outs that folk will be talking about. Myles Kennedy’s vocals are as fantastic as ever and Slash’s guitar licks continue to astound and I’ve been listening to his licks since the days of GNR. He just gets better.”

--Ian Cullen, **MONSTERSANDCRITICS.COM**, (Sept. 17, 2014)

“Fans expecting greatness from Slash’s third solo record won’t be disappointed in the least bit with **WORLD ON FIRE**. Bringing Myles Kennedy and The Conspirators for the second straight album paid dividends for Slash. **Slash is one of the greatest- if not the greatest riffmaster and guitarist of all time and he somehow still finds a way to bring us something that we not only haven’t heard before- but something that blows us away with how flawless the hooks, riffs and guitar work is.** Vocally **WORLD ON FIRE** is top notch. Myles Kennedy, as always, is the perfect vocal compliment to Slash. The years of touring together have paid off immensely as it’s clear they work beautifully together. **WORLD ON FIRE** shows what Guns n Roses could have been had things gone differently and it also proves Slash is still untouchable.”

--Reggie Edwards, **FRONTROWREPORT**, (Sept. 17, 2014)

“It goes to show without saying that we have a hard rock record here… that tasty opening riff of fourth track, ‘Wicked Stone,’ is impossible to avoid.”

--**ULTIMATE-GUITAR.COM**, (Sept. 17, 2014)

“The album comes out swinging with the title track and a successive and relentless thumping with the four tracks that follow. The riff for ‘Shadow Life’ hooks me right away as does the groove of ‘Wicked Stone’...”’Dirty Girl” is a groovy track that celebrates the rock and roller’s favorite touring indulgence. That never gets old for me. I am happy to hear the instrumental ‘Safari Inn’ which is a great rockin’ follow up to ‘Watch This’ with Dave Grohl on drums from Slash’s first solo album. To me, the most interesting thing is that Slash’s playing and signature sound is pervasive throughout all of his projects. From Guns N’ Roses to Velvet Revolver and Myles and The Conspirators, each band sounds completely different both on record and in a live setting, where the crowds are bigger with each performance.
Lightning has struck three times for Slash! I suppose rock is not ‘truly dead’ as someone recently stated.”

--Doug McCausland, ALTERNATIVENATION.NET, (Sept. 17, 2014)

“The popular British born guitarist has been performing for four years now with Alter Bridge frontman, Myles Kennedy, and the singer’s ‘other’ backing band The Conspirators (Todd Kerns, Brent Fitz and Bobby Schneck)--and the results have been electrifying. WORLD ON FIRE, a 17-track CD recorded on the star’s own label Dik Hayd Records, was essentially written on the road and carries on this rich vein of form. Storming opening number ‘World On Fire’ is even Slash’s fastest climbing single to date on radio. ‘Automatic Overdrive’ has a soaring chorus and powers along nicely, while ‘30 Years To Life’ is an anthemic stadium-friendly rocker featuring some sterling slide work in the intro. Further moments of brilliance include ‘Battleground,’ complete with a sublime guitar solo that has "Slash" written all over it, the stellar, Glenn Hughes-esque vibe of ‘Dirty Girl’ (the former Deep Purple vocalist's powerful tones primarily come to mind on the lines ‘I can't wait to see ya, you just don't believe it, the things she does’), the frenetic ‘Avalon,’ the solid instrumental ‘Safari Inn’ and the dark final track ‘The Unholy.’ …this is an outstanding record, full of verve, passion, ambition and heart. In short, the best rock album I've heard so far this year.”

--Adrien Peel, DIGITAL JOURNAL (Sept 16, 2014)

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