



# HOT RATS

'Magnolia'

Rock

Independent Release



I'm afraid I could find little information about this band apart from that they are from Itajai, which is a town located on the north coast of the state of Santa Catarina in Brazil. The info on the CD insert was about as much use as a chocolate teapot. This might be their first release, and then again it might not.

Anyways, the music is actually pretty good and, from the influences stated on Facebook, quite original sounding, which is a bit of a surprise. Citing Led Zeppelin, Frank Zappa, The Police, Rush, Black Sabbath, Deep Purple, AC/DC, Pink Floyd, Yes and Audioslave amongst the music which floats their collective boats, you might expect a lot of clone music here, but this is not really the case.

Being a three-piece and managing to pull off some quite accomplished music on '*Magnolia*' seems to have been some feat. The lead vocals of Siquera are clear and very strong. Doubling as the band guitarist, it's a strong performance all round. Bass is from Duda Cordeiro, and drums are from Mário Júnior. The thing that probably impresses most is the variety of music on this album. There are your usual rock staples, the odd trip into progressive rock territory and a short acoustic guitar track, which is actually quite pleasant.

I'm going to guess that these guys will actually do quite well in South America. The band name is obviously a tipping of the hat to Frank Zappa, which could work for them in terms of Internet searches etc. Their music is probably strong enough and entertaining enough to see them make progress beyond their native shores.

POWERPOINTS: ①②③④⑤⑥⑦⑧⑨

ALLAN BANNERMAN