



# YNGWIE MALMSTEEN

## NEW 'ATTACK' ALBUM OUT OCT. 21ST ON SPV

Yngwie Malmsteen, the Swedish-born guitar virtuoso who was the originator of the high-speed, technically precise, neo-classical style that developed during the 80s, is set to release his new album, *'Attack'*, on SPV on October 21st, 2002, vindicating once again his position at the forefront of the neoclassical rock music movement. *'Attack'* *amply* justifies Malmsteen's lasting and outstanding significance in the contemporary rock scene, forging a stylistic arch that links all those legendary classics that he has come up with in more than twenty years as a rock musician.

Yngwie Malmsteen was born on June 30, 1963, in Sweden. The Malmsteen family broke up soon after his birth. Watching Jimi Hendrix set light to his Stratocaster in a music programme on TV at the end of the Sixties, he was inspired to pick up his first guitar at the age of five. Influenced not only by Hendrix but also Ritchie Blackmore and Eddie Van Halen, he formed his first band, Powerhouse, at the age of 13, rechristening it 'Rising' one year later in honour of the same-named Rainbow album. From 1980 to 1982, he produced various instrumental demos, one of which ended up on the desk of American guitar guru, Mike Varney, who brought Malmsteen to the States and introduced him to Steeler, with whom he recorded their debut album.

He immediately received lucrative offers from the likes of Kiss, U.F.O. and Ozzy Osbourne, but he declined them in favour of teaming up with Rainbow and MSG vocalist Graham Bonnet in a new group called Alcatraz. This association lasted for 2 albums; the studio recording *'No Parole From Rock'n'Roll'* and the live cut *'Live Sentence'*, recorded in Japan.

Malmsteen was immediately offered a solo deal by Polydor records, just as his reputation and stature were beginning to escalate. He released the sensational self-produced *'Yngwie Malmsteen's Rising Force'* album in 1984. The Grammy-nominated *'Rising Force'* featured ex-Jethro Tull drummer Barriemore Barlow, current Stratovarius keyboard player Jens Johansson, and American Jeff Scott Soto on vocals. *'Rising Force'* is frequently referred to as the "Bible Of Neo-Classical Rock" and was voted Album of the Year by various publications.

Having released *'Marching Out'* (1985) and *'Trilogy'* (1986), Malmsteen arrived at a tragic turning point in 1987 when he was involved in a car accident with his Jaguar and was hospitalised for several months. Among other serious injuries, his right hand was paralysed – a disaster for an exceptional musician like Malmsteen, who eventually succeeded in restoring his motor activity with endless patience and admirable stamina.

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His 1988 album '*Odyssey*' marked more than merely the return of the Scandinavian guitar hero – it was his big breakthrough in America, reaching the top 40 of Billboard's album chart and producing the hit single 'Heaven Tonight' which was featured on heavy rotation by MTV. His '*Live In Leningrad / Trial By Fire*' video was recorded during two sold-out gigs in Moscow and Leningrad and went gold.

Malmsteen then moved to Miami, Florida, and brought out '*Eclipse*' in 1990, reaping several gold and platinum awards, followed by '*Fire And Ice*', which sold over 100,000 copies on the first day of its release and debuted at number one in the Japanese album chart. His 1994 album '*The Seventh Sign*' went triple-platinum.

In 1995 Malmsteen recorded '*Concerto Suite For Electric Guitar And Orchestra in Eb Moll, Opus 1*' with the Czech Philharmonic Orchestra, and after returning to Miami, he produced '*Facing The Animal*' and embarked on a tour of Japan, South America, Europe and the UK in 1998, cutting the material for '*Yngwie Malmsteen Live!!*'

He went on to devote himself to his classical preferences again, releasing '*Concerto Suite For Electric Guitar*', recorded with the New Japan Philharmonic Orchestra, which was released on DVD, CD and VHS cassette and is considered a blueprint for similar projects by other orchestras.

With his upcoming new release '*Attack*', Malmsteen is all set once again to impress and influence countless musicians and fans. It's the '*Attack*' of the guitar genius!

On the Attack - Roland Hyams on 020 8677 8466 / 020 8769 6713.

6th September 2002

[www.yngwie.org](http://www.yngwie.org)