

So ... right after the release of our latest album 'All Saints' (November 2019), I was already in ull swing recording fresh ideas for a future album. But then, Covid struck and left everything on hold. However, when we could, or rather: when we were allowed, my brother Eric, Mike, Lucas and I gathered at our beloved 'Captain Hook Studio' to work on those new ideas, now resulting in fourteen brand new tracks.

Most RHB-records were recorded in some three weeks' time. However, this time around we took it pretty easy, mostly because there wasn't any touring to do. By the beginning of 2022 we started tracking the songs. Since we already had put in so much rehearsal time, it actually only took three days to lay the foundation for the new songs. Quite crazy by today's standards, but hey; why waste time 'noodling' and let energy slip away, right!? I asked longtime friend Niels Schutten to spice up some of the songs with his keyboard playing, and once that was done I redid all my guitar parts. It's funny that, even after thirty years of playing, I always get somewhat 'gun shy' as soon as the red recording lights are turned on. Anyhow, I guess I managed. As soon as I was happy about the guitar parts Lucas started



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singing, which turned out bloody awesome as always. In fact, all the songs ended up sounding exactly the way I first heard them in my head when I recorded the demos on an acoustic guitar.

On 'Reloaded' you'll find two songs ('Ramblin' and 'Oblivion') which I wrote back in the mid-nineties with my friend Edgar Koelemeijer. I just had to rework them slightly because to me they fitted right in with the rest of the songs. After most recordings were done we had some fun with Edgar Winter's 'Keep playin' that rock 'n' Roll', one of our favourites, which turned out quite nice, so we decided to leave that on the album as well. In August 2022 Erwin Musper mixed the album. I am truly honoured that he took on this task. He did an awesome job taking our music to a new exciting level. Muchas gracias! Also a big 'THANK YOU' to Jan Blaauw, my longtime compadre, who once again did an outstanding job creating the wonderful artwork.

Last, but certainly not least, a very special thanks to my dear friend Marten 'Kappie' Haak. Thanks for your never-ending support, tireless enthusiasm, the sheer fun we share and for always making us feel right at home in the Captain Hook Studio. Never a dull moment!

I'm proud to think we are getting better as a band with each performance and every record. Foremost we are a band of friends who like to play good music and just feel it! So once again we hope you'll like listening to this record as much as we did making it. Now, fully reloaded, I'm already looking forward to the next one!

Cheerio

Ruben Hoeke - October 2022

PERSQUOTES

- 'Hoeke would kick ass among the best rockbands in the world! A worldclass starplayer.' (Lust for Life)
- 'One of todays leading Dutch guitarplayers.' (Platomania)
- 'His solo parts are raw, energetic and dirty. Love it!' (OOR)
- 'Steaming hot Rock & Roll!' (Music Maker)
- 'His guitar skill is of international stature. Time and time again he proofs to be the best blues- rock guitarist in the Benelux and perhaps even across the border' (Bluesmagazine)

Ruben Hoeke - Guitar I Eric Hoeke - Drums I Mike Kamp - Bass I Lucas Pruim - Vocals

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