



**The Madeira - Sandstorm** ★★★★★

Label: Double Crown DCCD CD

If there's just one word for this CD, it's *Adventure*. This is a superbly produced CD, not just in sound, but in arranging and writing and playing. The music is very engaging and very good! Highly recommended!

**Picks:** 'Sandstorm!', 'Cordoba', 'El Caliph', 'Burning Mirage', 'Rogue Wave', 'The Secret Route', 'Desert Drums', 'Ricochet', 'Crescent Moon', 'Across The Dunes', 'Express To Baghdad', 'The Oasis'

***Sun & Sand*** ★★★★★

"*Sun & Sand*" is a lush minute-long guitar vision of things to come. Very pretty.

***Sandstorm!*** ★★★★★

Prepare to rock! "*Sandstorm!*" is a stunning piece of music with a heavy rhythm and great energy. The impeccable playing and production deliver this hard driving song with all the panache required. Great!

***Cordoba*** ★★★★★

Infectious rhythms and thundering bass support a wonderful melody. Fire and danger, and abundant adventure. There's mystery and risk, and high adventure over every dune. Thoroughly cool!

***El Caliph*** ★★★★★

Great tribal drums, the rhythm of "*Mar Gaya*," and a dark Middle Eastern melody line that portrays danger. This chunky and very cool track commands your attention from every angle. Wonderful!

***Burning Mirage*** ★★★★★

Immense spunk and traveling adventure are evident in every dramatic bar of "*Burning Mirage*." The muted surf rhythm is superb!

***Rogue Wave*** ★★★★★

With the stinging fire of the **Atlantics**, "*Rogue Wave*" rocks and churns, relentlessly carrying you off to the that hazardous perfect ride. Intense, powerful, and fiery!

***The Secret Route*** ★★★★★

Haunting and somewhat ominous, "*The Secret Route*" tells a tale of a journey fraught with risk and adventure. Bing and visual, with drama and intense emotional content.

***Desert Drums*** ★★★★★

The drums rock, the guitars rule, and the bass thunders. Highly infectious, "*Desert Drums*" virtually drags you out to your roadster for a drive down highway 1. What a fine track. It's thoroughly enjoyable and full of fire.

***Ricochet*** ★★★★★

The circular riffs of "***Ricochet***" call on Gypsy moodiness and the Atlantics' spunk. Big drama, open space, and a panoramic visual sense. This is a huge and commanding piece of music.

***Crescent Moon*** ★★★★★

Softly painting a landscape of desert mystery and intrigue, the rhythm and lead guitar compliment each other very well. Big drama in the cymbals, and a soft moodiness in the bass. Very richly arranged.

***Across The Dunes*** ★★★★★

Once past the intro, "***Across The Dunes***" becomes a raucous and galloping number with a very engaging sound. On first listen, it draws you into its clutches. A great arrangement, great writing, and solid playing here!

***Express To Baghdad*** ★★★★★

This is an **Atlantics'** song carried to its logical conclusion. Wonderful drums, big panoramic sound, sweeping energy, and a haunting sense. "***Express To Baghdad***" is very well adapted to the **Madeira's** sound, yet remains very complimentary to the original.

***The Oasis*** ★★★★★

Softly delicate, "***The Oasis***" slowly moves across a sunset dune, giving a warming but distant view of a small group of palms. It's a very pretty song.

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