

**STYX ROCKS THE HOUSE WITH ROCKERS, "BEST OF" ALBUM DEVOTED TO
THE POPULAR BAND'S ROCKINGEST TRACKS**

Though renowned for power ballads such as "Babe" and "Come Sail Away" as well as artsy prog-rockers, Styx was also one of arena rock's most popular bands of the '70s and '80s. Now, for the first time, the often overlooked rockin' side of Styx gets its own "best of" album with the aptly-titled **Rockers** (A&M/UMe), released August 26, 2003.

With 11 digitally remastered selections spanning 1975 to 1990, personally selected by the band's rockier element of guitarist James Young and singer-guitarist Tommy Shaw, **Rockers** boasts four chart hits. Classic Rock standards, the Top 20 pop "Renegade" and Top 30 pop "Blue Collar Man (Long Nights)," each penned by Shaw, hail from 1978's triple platinum Pieces Of Eight. On the Mainstream Rock chart, "Snowblind," heard on 1980's triple platinum Paradise Theatre, went Top 30, and "Love Is The Ritual," from 1990's gold Edge Of The Century, Top 10.

Dennis DeYoung (keyboards) and brothers John and Chuck Panozzo (drums and bass, respectively) had played together on Chicago's South Side since grade school. Adding guitarists John Curulewski and Young, Styx debuted on album in 1972. Though its first four albums failed to hit, the band was signed to A&M and from its first album for the label, 1975's gold Equinox, **Rockers** culls Young's "Midnight Ride."

For the subsequent tour, Alabama-born and -raised Shaw was recruited to replace Curulewski and soon became a full-fledged bandmember. From the gold Crystal Ball (1976), **Rockers** takes the Shaw-penned title track and the Young-Shaw collaboration "Shooz." But it was 1977's The Grand Illusion that turned Styx into a superstar. The triple platinum album spun off a pair of

mellow chart hits but the LP also claimed Young's "Miss America" and Shaw's "Man In The Wilderness."

Tension in the band between the more rocking and more progressive factions was contentious. Pieces of Eight and Paradise Theatre, whose "Snowblind" was co-written by Young and DeYoung, balanced the two. But 1983's platinum rock opera Kilroy Was Here proved problematic, represented on **Rockers** only by Young's "Heavy Metal Poisoning." Styx then broke up.

In 1990, a short-lived reunion, with guitarist-singer-songwriter Glen Burtnik replacing Shaw (who co-founded Damn Yankees), led to Edge Of The Century. Burtnik co-penned its "Love Is A Ritual" and "Little Suzie," though the latter would not be released until 1996's Greatest Hits Part 2. That year, the Styx of Young, Shaw and Chuck Panozzo returned (his brother had passed away) and has since indie-released several albums.

Today, 30-plus years since its debut album, Styx rocks on.

#

STYX is available for interviews.

PRESS CONTACT: Sujata Murthy, Universal 310-865-7812
Todd Nakamine, Universal 310-865-7797
RADIO CONTACT: Elliot Kendall, Universal 310-865-9852