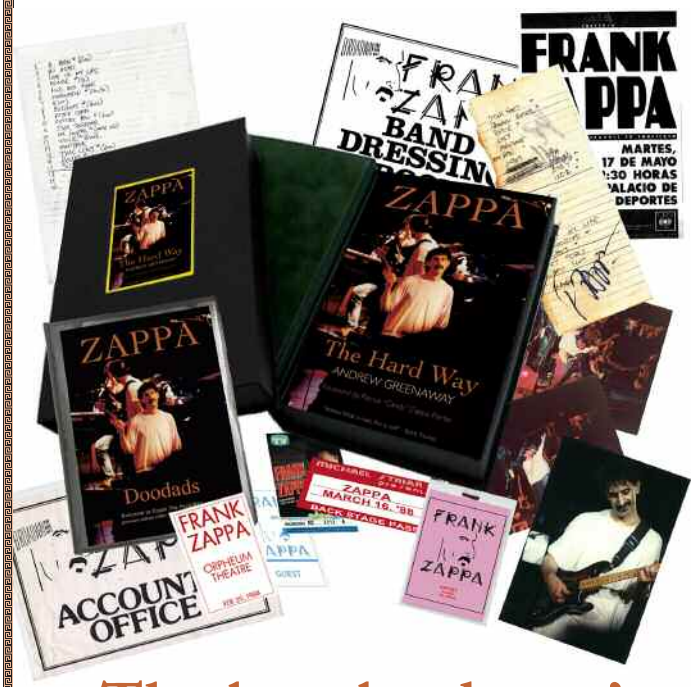
FRANK ZAPPA

Zappa The Hard Way

ANDREW GREENAWAY



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Exclusive 1988 “Doodads” memorabilia pack

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- Foreword by Frank Zappa’s sister, Candy.
- 100 individually numbered copies.
- Personally signed by the author.
- Previously unpublished photos from the rehearsals, the studio, and other off stage shots by Lynn Goldsmith, official FZ photographer for the ‘Baby Snakes’, ‘Sheik Yerbouti’ and ‘Broadway The Hard Way’ releases.
- Full 1988 discography and set lists.
- Hardback with dust jacket.
- Handmade presentation case with suedal pads and cover art inlaid and blocked in foil.
- ‘Doodads’ pack includes; a set of exclusive photos, replica satin cloth tour passes, tour laminate, 2 facsimile set lists, handwritten by, and signed by Frank Zappa, and the remnants of his notepad, left in the dressing room at the last gig.

The best book you’ve never read in your life!

Frank Zappa - Genius? Musical dictator? Guitar hero? American dissident? Whatever one's view of the man, there is no denying that he always hired musicians of the highest calibre. Throughout his entire career, the list of musicians that worked with **Zappa** reads like a who's who of the leading lights of rock and jazz.

From the original **Mothers Of Invention** through **George Duke**, **Jean-Luc Ponty** and **Terry Bozzio** to **Steve Vai** and beyond. No matter who was in **Zappa's** band, high quality musicianship was assured.

In 1988, **Zappa** toured with a twelve-piece band that had rehearsed for months, learned a repertoire of over 100 songs and played an entirely different set each night. It is why, in **Zappa's** own words, it was "**the best band you never heard in your life**" - a reference to East Coast American audiences who never got the chance to see this particular touring ensemble.

Taking place in the run-up to an election, **Zappa** had voter registration booths set up at many of the West Coast venues, and adapted song lyrics to take pot-shots at politicians of all persuasions, as well as the increasingly scandal-ridden TV evangelists. The repertoire was a mixture of **Zappa** originals, classical favourites and "deranged" versions of songs by **The Beatles**, **Led Zeppelin** and many more. Just how many rock bands have ever undertaken such a tour? **The Police's Sting** joined them on stage at one show, but Zeppelin's **Robert Plant** walked out in London before he had a chance to hear the band's reggae version of 'Stairway To Heaven'.

Zappa appointed bass player **Scott Thunes** to rehearse the group in his absence. In carrying out this role, Thunes was apparently abrasive, blunt and rude to the other members and two factions quickly developed: **Thunes** and stunt guitarist **Mike Keneally** on the one side; the remaining nine band members on the other. The atmosphere deteriorated as the tour progressed through America and on to Europe.

Before leaving Europe, **Zappa** told the band that there were ten more weeks of concerts booked in the USA and asked them: "*If Scott's in the band, will you do the tour?*" With the exception of **Keneally**, they all said "*no*". Rather than replace **Thunes**, **Zappa** cancelled almost three months of concerts and never toured again - claiming to have lost $400,000 in the process.

'Zappa The Hard Way' documents that tour. If you think touring can be fun, think again! Yes there were groupies and the usual paraphernalia associated with rock 'n' roll, but there was also bitterness and skulduggery on a scale that no one could imagine. Author **Andrew Greenaway** has interviewed the surviving band members and others associated with the tour to unravel the goings on behind the scenes that drove **Zappa** to call a halt to proceedings, despite the huge personal financial losses.

'**Zappa The Hard Way**' might just be **the best book you've never read in your life**!

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