

simon tittley

The Total Pro

I forget who turned me on to New York bass player Mike Stanzilas, certainly he came highly recommended...

Two days before the gig I spent a couple of hours at Mike's apartment on 105th Street running down the tunes. The gig was in Asbury Park, supporting Bob Dylan's son's band The Wallflowers...

The venue was full and the atmosphere absolutely manic. The promoter wanted us to go on later than we had agreed. This was not possible as Mike had to leave in time to get back for a late gig in NYC.

Finally the promoter relented and told us to be on stage and ready to play in two minutes. Setting up a stereo Marshall set-up with numerous effects and a mess of cables is not easy in the dark!

With the promoter shouting 'Go! Go! Go!', I knelt over my pedals and frantically tuned my strat. Standing up I counted the first tune off. The band did not play a wrong note the whole set...

Afterwards I paid Mike before he rushed back to New York for his second gig that night !