

REVIEW – Fun Lovin Criminals – The Queens Hall ****



The Fun Lovin' Criminals had the packed Queen's Hall jumping last Saturday evening as the multi-platinum New York group arrived in the capital as part of their twelve date tour, which ends in Manchester in four weeks' time.

With no support band in tow, the sell-out auditorium full of FLC faithful greeted frontman Huey Morgan, instrumental multi-tasker Brian Leiser and an energetic Frank Benbini on drums onto the stage to the strains of the Superman theme tune with a raucous round of applause.

The Fun Lovin' Criminals opened up their unique cocktail of New York rock, funk, hip-hop set with their signature tune of the same name before moving into the 'mucho grande-style' of The Grave & the Constant to balance the mood. These guys were sure out to have fun and embrace a crowd that Morgan noted he 'never takes for granted' in equal measure.

Morgan was a Marine in a former life which means he would have been up against some tough challenges in his time. The Edinburgh audience certainly wasn't one of them as they welcomed Scooby Snacks in a frenzied state, whilst the hall united in chanting Barry White's name with gusto during the wonderfully delivered Love Unlimited.

Fans new and old were treated to a full repertoire of the Come Find Yourself album that remarkably celebrates its 21st birthday this year.

Crowd pleasers included the gritty King of New York and the band's individual take on the Louis Armstrong classic "We Have All the Time in the World" which brought the pre-encore

proceedings to a close.

The encore of sorts ended with the tour hashtag number Big Night Out. For those that have followed the threesome since their halcyon days and newbies alike, it most certainly was and enjoyable one at that.