

# relix

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## VARIOUS ARTISTS

### *The Sandinista Project* ● 00:02:59

There's disagreement regarding *Sandinista!*, The Clash's over-stuffed, genre-defying 1980 triple-album follow-up to *London Calling*. People call it flawed, bloated, unfocused, self-indulgent and all kinds of other things before admitting that buried among the 36 tracks are some of The Clash's best songs. A few contrarians insist it's their favorite Clash record. For the rest of us, it was always a mixed bag that only delivered on portions of its promise. True to the original, the results of this tribute are uneven. And the contributors draw out a rootsy thread from The Clash's dub, disco, gospel sprawl. Standouts include **The Smithereens'** version of "Up in Heaven," **Joe Grushecky and The Houserockers'** energetic rendition of "The Magnificent Seven," and **Lou Carolozo's** "Living in Fame" which conjures early R.E.M. As with the Clash's original, fatigue sets in, but if you're patient, *The Sandinista Project* yields a few keepers. Still, as with the source material, you're not likely to want to sit through this set repeatedly in its entirety. ★ *John Adamian*

LET IT RAIN  
(ORIGINAL)  
Led by ROBERT FISHER, the original  
and burlier voice, the group  
endeavor recorded in Slovenia  
contributions from STEVE WYNNE  
as well as the  
MUSIC WITH HEART  
THE  
BIG  
TAKER  
OVER

Willard Grant Conspiracy