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Kate Bush - Hounds Of Love Under Review (Pride/MVD DVD)

Picture: C+ Sound: C+ Extras: C Documentary: B

The Under Review series of music documentaries continues its look at key albums from major artists, even if they have done a great job covering them before as a whole. One such example is Kate Bush, which they did such a good job in general on Kate Bush that they have decided to return to her and specifically focus on her great breakthrough album Hounds Of Love. You can see our coverage of the previous DVD at this link:

http://www.fulvuedrive-in.com/review/3837/Kate+Bush+-+Under+Review

Instead of problematic overlap with the previous program, the 88 minutes here is always interesting, informative and rich in clips, stills and gets into the story about some of the controversy about the album itself. Fans know how the hit Running Up That Hill was originally entitled Make A Deal With God, while it was still rare for any artist (especially a female) to have this kind of autonomy, creative control and power while having this kind of commercial success and respectability. It is a shame and sometimes a mystery why she did not cross over even bigger in the U.S., but the Music Videos to the songs are terrific and are shown here

It also recalls how big the album was elsewhere and just what a strong work it is track by track. It is also an album that holds up remarkably well after all these years and will make you want to buy it when you finish seeing this.

Like the previous DVD, the 1.33 X 1 image is PAL-originated and some slight ghosting here and there is an issue, but with the great wealth of material and the variant nature of documentaries anyhow, such flaws are not as distracting. The Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo is simple and has no surrounds, while it reminded this critic that much of Bush's catalog (again) needs and deserves to be issued in audiophile format versions like SACD. Extras include a vintage tape of Kate talking about the album and text on the interviewees.

Nicholas Sheffo

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