



Van Der Graaf Generator: Recorded Live in Concert at Metropolis Studios, London was a great treat to watch for any progressive rock fan and any Van Der Graaf Generator fan.

Starting out the concert with the haunting “Interference Patterns” from their 2008 album *Trisector*, lead singer Peter Hammill proves he still has it after all these years. He actually seems like a fun guy to talk to. They transitioned into their next track “Nutter Alert” from their 2005 album *Present*.

Van Der Graaf Generator are “giants” in the progressive rock world, and in 2010, according to the CD/DVD package, fans braved a blizzard to travel to West London’s Metropolis Studios to take in a rare UK appearance by Peter Hammill, Hugh Banton and Guy Evans.

The boys next played 3 new songs. The first one was “Your Time Starts Now,” from the 2011 album *A Grounding in Numbers*. This was a fantastic song, soft and moody. It sort of reminded me of early Procol Harum. The next song wasn’t actually a new song at all, “Lemmings” from their 1971 album *Pawn Hearts*. This song features their signature style that everyone is used to.

The third song “Lifetime” was from their 2008 album *Trisector*. I was not the biggest fan of this song musically, but lyrically it was very well done. Then there was the harder rocker “Bunsho” from their 2011 album *A*

Grounding in Numbers. The band then went into a rare gem and one of my favorites “Childlike Faith” from their 1976 album *Still Life*.

Next up was another track off their 2011 album *A Grounding in Numbers* called “Mr. Sands,” which was a funny disclaimer to the audience about a fictional character named Mr. Sands. I liked this one second best. The next song “Over the Hill,” was ok. The problem was it moved really slow, and was very repetitive. It was from their 2008 album *Trisector*. The second to last song was “We Are Not Here” again from their 2008 album *Trisector*. I didn’t like this one either because it was again very repetitive.

The band actually saved their best for last. With “Man-Erg” from their 1971 album *Pawn Hearts*, this song was an epic in proportion. Both the music and lyrics are the strongest in this song. What a way to end the show!

Reviewed by Kevin Pollack

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