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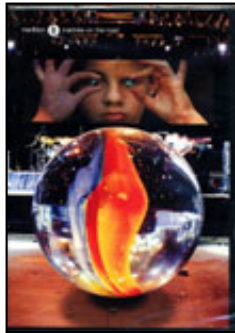
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## DVD Video Reviews

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### Marillion – Marbles on the Road (2005)

*Haunting progressive rock from a band formed over two decades ago*



#### Marillion – Marbles on the Road (2005)

**Studio:** MVD Music Video Distributors

**Video:** 1.78:1 Widescreen Enhanced

**Audio:** DD 5.1, DD Stereo

**Extras:** You're Gone Promo Video, Don't Hurt Yourself Promo Video, Marbles Album EPK (12 min)

**Length:** 109 minutes

**Rating:** \*\*\*1/2

This concert was filmed at the Astoria in London England the 10th and 11th of July, 2004 in what looks like a large club venue. During a good part of the show the band is awash with a blue haze/glow that is over and around the entire stage making the players almost cartoon-like. About 12 minutes or so into the first song the color palette shifts to a white glow and then to orange and red, but then returned to the blue. It doesn't detract as much as it is just a little weird. At first you have to think, what modern band is making music like this?! Then you realize that Marillion has been around for over twenty years and it all makes a little sense. The band produces music that I'd best describe as haunting progressive rock that my co-worker likened to Peter Gabriel while I'd say is more like a combination of Yes and Metallica with a little Pink Floyd thrown in for good measure. The members of the band are solid performers and I especially was impressed with the guitar work. If Coldplay made progressive rock instead of alternative pop/rock then this is what it would sound like. The second song reminded me of King Crimson's "Matte Kudasai" with its slower melodic shifts and effervescent vocals. The following tracks settle into a smooth groove (for lack of a better description). To try to characterize it would be to sell the music short, but comparisons to some of the more inventive music of Jeff Beck or even Joe Satriani would not be off base.

The “Don’t Hurt Yourself” video is widescreen while “You’re Gone” is letterboxed. The videos are promotional and have a lot of time devoted to the band playing on stage, set up, or other concert related activities. Crowd noise is in surrounds as well as cool instrumental effects. For what may indeed be a unique experience for many listeners, this album is worth investigation. Songs included: The Invisible Man; Marbles I; You’re gone; Angelina; Marbles II; Don’t Hurt Yourself; Fantastic Place; Marbles III; The Damage; Marbles IV; Neverland; Bridge; Living With the Big Lie; The Party; Between You and Me; Uninvited Guest; Cover My Eyes.

-Brian Bloom

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