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Marbles On The Road DVD

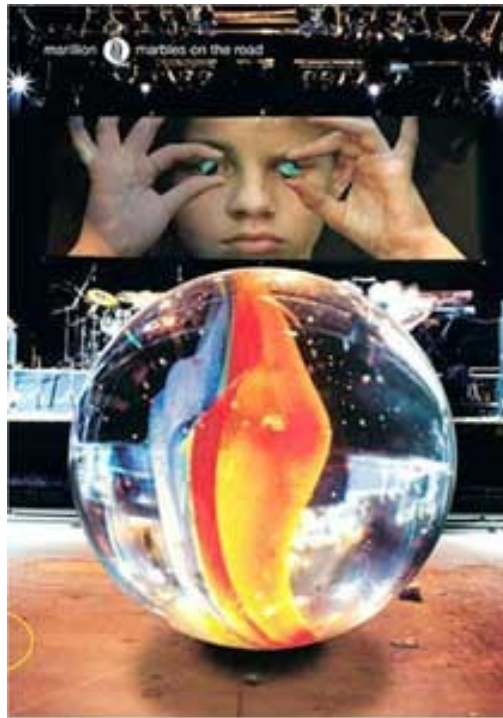
This was indeed a special and magical experience for this Marillion fan...

By Keith Hannaleck, 5/19/2005

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Artist: Marillion
Title: Marbles On The Road
Format: DVD
Genre: Progressive Rock
Label: Music Video Distributors

Marillion is a band I want to see play live some day. They do not come around that often to venues that are a reasonable distance away from where I live so I will continue to wait for that day to arrive. In the meantime, I have the next the best thing to being there, the *Marbles On The Road* DVD. I mean this in a literal sense-if a band produces a DVD properly it does give you a front row seat to an event.

I think *Marbles* won a lot of old Marillion fans back from the fallout of *Anoraknophobia*. I think it was a good album but a definite departure from what their fans were accustomed to hearing. I have heard

references to the *Easter* era before when discussions arise regarding *Marbles*. I pre-ordered the special two disc set right from the band's site prior to its release and consider it a good decision and a worthy purchase. It is a great album.

If you have the album and have not seen the band perform it live, wait until you watch this DVD. This is fantastic entertainment. After all these years, Marillon sounds like a band in their prime. Lead vocalist Steve Hogarth is a real actor on stage, portraying his parts in each song, making it believable with facial expressions and body language. What can you say about the rest of the band except they are all outstanding musicians that click when they perform in the studio or on stage? For the great bands with longevity, it does not seem to matter as they always shine in either setting. Steve Rothery is an incredible guitar player, Ian Mosley a superb drummer, Peter Trewavas a one of a kind bass player, and Mark Kelly is that special factor on keyboards that helps to push their music to the realms of progressive rock and beyond.

During the production of this event an astounding 15 different cameras took their place around the stage for filming, and the sound is in both stereo and 5.1 surround sound. The special features include videos of the standout tracks "Don't Hurt Yourself" and "You're Gone." This was indeed a special and magical experience for this Marillon fan. I credit this band for putting me head over heels in love with progressive rock, I never looked back after covering the EMI remasters in the summer of 2000.

The only misgiving is that I feel there could have been more bonus features and interviews with the band members. Perhaps that will be available on the next DVD that comes out. There is a special extended version 2 DVD set offered on the band's website if you want to have your cake and eat it too. This was good enough for me and I truly enjoyed finally getting to see one of my favorite bands perform live.

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May 18, 2005

Rating-9/10

01. The Invisible Man
02. Marbles I
03. You're Gone
04. Angelina
05. Marbles II
06. Don't Hurt Yourself
07. Fantastic Place
08. Marbles III
09. The Damage
10. Marbles IV
11. Neverland
12. Bridge
13. Living With the Big Lie
14. The Party
15. Between You and Me
16. Uninvited Guest
17. Cover My Eyes

PLUS DVD EXTRAS
Marbles EPK
You're Gone (Promo Video)
Don't Hurt Yourself (Promo Video)

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