

Progsheet

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Van Der Graaf Generator - Do Not Disturb (Esoteric Antenna)

It seems that the train has evidently reached the final destination. This disc is touted as the last time we get Peter Hammill, Hugh Banton, and Guy Evans in a studio under the Van Der Graaf Generator banner. If that is indeed the case, the band leaves on a strong note.

If something is noticeably different here, **Do Not Disturb** is a tad less angular than VDGG of the past. It *feels* like a last album - if that makes sense. 3 friends taking time to craft a final statement. It doesn't try to encapsulate a decades-long career. It's more of a hug to each other. Like brothers heading off on separate journeys. No ire or bitterness. More of a confident conclusion to an experiment.

*This flight of fancy carries you until you know for sure. There's no going back to where you were before. Now you've lost the knack says the song **Aloft**. It concludes *So the pay-off's due, now you've told the tale. All the words you used are exhaled.* In **Go**, Hammill writes *Time to leave, close the door. You can't believe you wanted more, more or less, all for the best. In the end it's all behind you.**

Musically, it's full of invention and exploration. If there are feelings of regret, they seem to be few. **Do Not Disturb** is a fine concluding chapter to the Van Der Graaf Generator legacy. If this *is* truly the last round - I'm buying, lads!