

PRETENTIOUS EARS: CD REVIEWS

Patrick Moraz "Windows of Time"

(TimeWave Music) This reissue gives new listeners a shot at discovering a talented, passionate pianist...

dense with great hooks, mingling experimental electronica, Eastern melodies, political vocal samples and more.

—Kristofer Upjohn

"Sixty Minutes With Rick Wakeman" (Voiceprint)

Rick Wakeman's stunning musicianship has spanned a cornucopia of styles throughout his career and this disc demonstrates that.

—Kristofer Upjohn

Bush Tetras "Very, Very Happy" (ROIR)

The post-punk scene of the '80s was wide open for indie bands to step in and use a rough-and-ready approach to lo-fi rock-and-roll.

—Kristofer Upjohn

Raz Mesinai's Badawi "Unit of Resistance" (ROIR)

The story behind "Unit of Resistance" is fascinating. The scene: New York, 2004. The Republican National Convention is in town.

Opeth "The Roundhouse Tapes" (Peaceville)

The dark beauty of Opeth is not diluted on these two discs recorded at the band's 2006 performance at the Camden Roundhouse in London.

in the whole. —Kristofer Upjohn

Jon Anderson "Watching the Flags that Fly" (Voiceprint)

"Watching the Flags that Fly" is comprised of tracks laid down in 1990 and intended to be used for the sophomore effort of prog act ABWH.

—Kristofer Upjohn

"Stranger: Bernie Worrell on Earth" (MVDVisual)

Worrell's innovative work has influenced rock, funk, blues, R&B, hip-hop and even new wave. He summoned new sounds from the keys and played many styles.

—Kristofer Upjohn

As I Lay Dying "An Ocean Between Us" (Metal Blade)

As I Lay Dying has flares of originality at the very same time that it plays off what is now a fairly standardized template.

that fusion its own. —Kristofer Upjohn

The Black Dahlia Murder "Nocturnal" (Metal Blade)

The Black Dahlia Murder's mean metal chops are on full display on "Nocturnal." Scathing guitar attacks and relentless percussion assault.

—Kristofer Upjohn

Ilia (Independent release)

Ilia's hot-off-the-presses release is short. Weighing in at a whopping 3 tracks, the untitled EP leaves one more unsatisfied than a kid in a broccoli store.

Each of the songs is a gem and absolutely worth the \$1.35 asking price for the individual downloads available at snocap.com.

Fans who've visited Ilia's Myspace page will already be familiar with the heavy hitting "Portrait of a Lying Heart" that recently earned the girls second place in the finals of a competition on Ourstage.com.

"Last Night" is a hard and choppy tune with a lyrical message that's consistent with the band's religious mission.

Singer Alyssa seems to hold back a little on "This Is Only the Beginning," making the song an obvious choice for a first track.

The result isn't exactly awkwardness, but it may tilt your head a little if your ear has been trained by the rest of Ilia's catalogue.

Most Ilia fans will likely be disappointed by the playtime of the EP, but what won't disappoint them is the music that will just have to do until we get a full-length release.

—Stewart Fuell



Director Francis Ford Coppola (left) with his daughter fellow director Sofia Coppola (right) arrive for the screening the movie "Youth Without Youth" at the second edition of the Rome Film Festival in Rome, Italy, Saturday.

Coppola's first movie in a decade premieres in Rome

By Marta Falconi ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

ROME (AP) — It is Francis Ford Coppola's first movie in a decade, and the Oscar-winning director said Saturday that audiences should be in no hurry before deciding if "Youth Without Youth" is good or bad.

"Youth Without Youth" is Coppola's first movie since "The Rainmaker" in 1997. It was having its public premiere Saturday evening at the Rome Film Festival.

At an earlier screening for the press, reactions were mixed, and Coppola asked people to see it more than once.

"When you venture into new territories ... you know that it's different than 'Spider-Man' or 'Shrek' or other films that are immediately met with success.

"Youth Without Youth" tells a metaphysical story about a 70-year-old Romanian professor of linguistics (played by Tim Roth) who miraculously becomes younger after being struck by lightning.

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intellectual abilities which attract the attention of the Nazis as World War II looms. Turned into a fugitive, he is also tormented by dreams of his lost love.

The film, shot in Romania, is adapted from a novella by the Romanian philosopher-author Mircea Eliade.

In other comments, Coppola sought to play down critical remarks he was quoted making about Al Pacino, Robert De Niro and Jack Nicholson in a recent magazine interview.

In the November issue of GQ magazine, Coppola was quoted as saying that the three Oscar-winning actors have become apathetic and lost their passion for taking on good roles.

He also called De Niro "wealthy and powerful" — and more ambitious than Nicholson.

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