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Marillion -- *Somewhere Else*

Apr. 13th, 2007 @ 10:05 pm

Tags: [marillion prog rock](#)

It's been [three years](#) since the last new Marillion album, and what I said then about them is still true now. This music gets inside me and pervades all I do. A new album is a significant life event.

Somewhere Else is just over half the length of *Marbles* and is stylistically very different--shorter songs, much more intimate production, simpler melodies and arrangements. Much more like some of the current bands with shorter pop songs with prog elements. Steve Hogarth's vocals are much more fragile, frequently breaking into falsetto, dripping with emotion and drama. While writing the album he broke up with his wife, and the title track of the album is a study of that, and the album's songs are themed with doubt, uncertainty, and distance. Certainly not a concept album, but a thematically related one.

I love the title track and the subsequent "Voice From the Past", but I like the whole thing. Fundamentally I'm a ridiculous fanboy and would love anything they did, but what that means is I keep listening until I figure out how to appreciate what they're trying to do. I almost always can, and this album makes it easy.

This album actually fits in well with the [new prog](#) stuff I've been listening to. It also shouldn't scare you away if you listen to Radiohead or Coldplay or Muse or stuff like that. So give it a shot. It comes out in the US on April 24th.

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From:  [origamislayer](#)

Date: April 14th, 2007 05:00 pm (UTC)

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I'm enjoying the album, but I can't listen to "Most Toys". It seems like it doesn't belong with the rest of the songs and it doesn't really grab me. On the other hand "The Other

Half" and "See It Like A Baby" don't let go.

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From: [mrfantasy](#)

Date: April 14th, 2007 09:20 pm (UTC)

([Link](#))

Man, why is everyone down on "Most Toys"? It's a fat, chunky, grinding rock anthem. Yeah, it's a little jarring in the context of the album, but I prefer to think of it as a two and a half minute diversion.

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From: [ahartfie](#)

Date: April 15th, 2007 12:26 am (UTC)

Nothing to do with Marillion!

([Link](#))

I still think of you every time I hear Shawn Colvin - you recommended her to me in about 1994, before her breakthrough album *A Few Small Repairs*. I like her quite a bit, and always think "I liked her before she was famous!"

So, thanks. :)

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From: [mrfantasy](#)

Date: April 15th, 2007 01:16 am (UTC)

Re: Nothing to do with Marillion!

([Link](#))

No problem. Have you seen her live? She's really good--great funny stories, great voice, great with the crowd.

So are you going to trust me on this Marillion thing? I think you'd get a lot out of this album.

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From: [mrfantasy](#)

Date: April 15th, 2007 01:18 am (UTC)

Re: Nothing to do with Marillion!

([Link](#))

Oddly, I totally missed that Shawn Colvin put out a new album last September. Guess I'll pick that up.

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From: [ahartfie](#)

Date: April 16th, 2007 01:43 am (UTC)

Re: Nothing to do with Marillion!

([Link](#))

I haven't seen her live, no. I think she's been up this way, too. I'll have to keep an eye out.

Hmm..... Marillion, I dunno. I'll have to see if any of my friends at work have any of their stuff so I can give them a test listen. I don't listen to much prog stuff - Yes bores me, I don't listen to Rush after Signals, etc.

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