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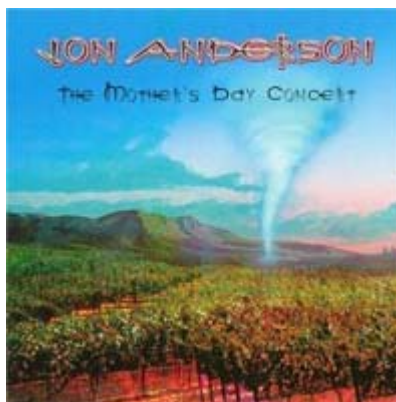
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Editorial



Jon Anderson
The Mother's Day Concert
Voiceprint/MVD Visual
www.jonboxset.com

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Jon Anderson is one of the few people in music history that I believe is in tune with something much larger than himself. While, initially his high pitched voice takes some getting used to, over time you realize just how amazingly versatile he is. With numerous solo albums to his credit, aside from his work with Yes, Anderson, Bruford, Wakeman, and Howe, and Vangelis, among others, he is now offering a box set of sorts. This box set contains live recordings and rarities and is on album number 7 out of an eventual 20. This particular album is the 2nd in the set.

The Mother's Day concert was recorded live at Martin Brothers Winery in Paso Robles California in 1996. I read that the sound quality is akin to an FM radio broadcast and that's a true description. Considering this is taken from a bootleg, it's got great sound quality. Nothing sounds fuzzy or distant, it's just not crystal clear. Anderson pulls from his solo albums, Yes, and his work with Vangelis for this concert. The Charlie Brown theme song also makes a surprise appearance here much to the delight of the (I'm assuming) mildly intoxicated crowd (it is a winery people!).

This concert comes amidst a slight lull for Yes (although they were on the heels of two amazing albums in Union and Talk) but finds Anderson in high spirits. He really sounds great on this recording. He's a good example of a vocalist who took awhile to



really get command of his abilities. The album leans heavily on his new age beliefs and is unquestionably a celebration of the Earth, to many the original mother. “Children of the Light,” a bluesy version of “Owner of a Lonely Heart,” and “The Revealing Science of God” are among the highlights but really this whole CD is a gem for longtime fans.

Obviously this type of release is meant for only die hard fans. Realistically though I found myself enjoying it tremendously and I’m not overly familiar with the Vangelis material or his solo albums. I think that even those who are primarily fans of Yes will enjoy this. Fans of this musical legend need to own this. I can’t wait to hear the other albums!

Key Tracks: “Owner of a Lonely Heart,” “Children of Light”

Reviewed by Mark Fisher

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