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**Believe - This Bread is Mine**



2009 Metal Mind Productions/MVD Visual  
[www.metalmind.com.pl](http://www.metalmind.com.pl) / [mvdv2b.com](http://mvdv2b.com)

They spark a darkness that is unleashed with clever melodic notions. Coming from the mind of Ex-College/Mr. Gil guitarist Mirek Gil, Poland's **Believe** have shown themselves as their own musical entity with their latest musical effort. They have delivered a passionate piece of work that sparks the mindset for all walks of melodic prog; this time, possessing something that upholds a much deeper hierarchy for the dark & haunting vibe that this record beholds.

It's a cross between Pendragon & Stream of Passion, yet without being overtly 'neo' like the 'dragon or standing in completely the gothic metal zone as the 'passion does; yet set this overall atmosphere to 'ballad' and mood is in stone. But the music is not about sappy love songs or completely eased back like most of us would consider when we hear the 'B' word; *This Bread is Mine* has its moments of heaviness, where the axe work crunches through the lush atmospheric passages - and the 'neo' vibe is certainly present, but this band brings more to the table, without being a Marillion or Galahad clone, expanding on the emotive stock that this music provides. With their own formula set, you have the Ray Wilson/Yogi Lang-esque vocals of Karol Wróblewski (who also plays keys & flute), the weeping violin of Satomi, the powerful rhythmic punch of drummer Vlodi Tafel & bassist Przemias Zawadzki (College), and the masterminded axe skills of Gil to round out the expressive tunes that make up this record.

"Mother," "Problems Rise," & the title track are the darkened tracks that bring this sort of pall laden hallowed emotion with this *Momentary Lapse.../Division Bell*-era Floyd meets RPWL tunesmith tendencies, having moments of crunch and aggression, but held back to a certain extent to keep the darkness at the forefront - and that edge goes further with the acoustic "AA," where the layered violins keep the tune in the sorrowful state of mind, and the closing number "Silence," which is a soul bearing track stripped to just vocals & acoustic. To show what this band can do musically both "Darkness" & the syncopated rhythms of the multi-faceted "Tales from Under the Tree" prove that they have their chops together.

It's a release that remains consistently dark from front to back; the emotion, the lyrics, and the overall production really are a big factor in making this record what it is - the overall sonics were enhanced by the fact that Pink Floyd/David Gilmour engineer Andy Jackson mastered this, for this does not have the thin, flat, or muddy sound that often plagues progressive rock recordings, considering many are D.I.Y. - this is audiophile approved. For those who are looking for something that is darkwave prog but is not post-rock or nu-prog, this is something for you; for those who desire a little more originality from 'neo' minded band, take a listen. Highly recommend for fans of Pineapple Thief, RPWL, Magenta, & Carptree.

**Added:** September 6th 2009  
**Reviewer:** [Tommy Hash](#)  
**Score:** ★★★★★  
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