



DVD: Caamora: She

Our Take

After finishing my review of the 2-CD version of Caamora's *She* it seemed appropriate to check out the DVD release as well in order to gain a better perspective on the amount of work that went into this rock opera. The DVD is available as part of a limited edition boxset or as a separate retail release, and offers the full performance in addition to a documentary that chronicles the work that went into the project. And whether you've already experienced the opera on CD or not, if you have an interest in *She* this DVD is a great place to start.

As I mentioned in my review of the CD, *She* is a rock opera adaptation version of the H. Rider Haggard novel of the same name so it would be highly recommended that you orient yourself with the book in some way before watching or listening (unless you want to be fairly lost when it comes to what this show is all about). One of the first things viewers will likely notice is that the stage size of the theatre where this was shot is a little smaller than average which means that all of the musicians are on stage with the singers. But this was clearly thought of when creating the show as many of the musicians are dressed up to match the rest of the cast and the singers are still given the spotlight. The production values of *She* are very notable, as all of the costumes look great and it is clear that a lot of work was put into them. The backdrops also fit the theme of the show perfectly, though they don't look nearly as good when the filmmakers zoom in on them (it is clear that they were made to look better from a distance). But overall, this performance is an excellent example of how to take make a rock opera that is equal parts power metal and neo-prog and make one hell of a stage show out of it.

There are some bonus features included on this DVD, and while they are the standard items such as photographs and a biography viewers will be pleased to find that Metal Mind also included a fairly lengthy documentary. This documentary has interviews with just about every major person involved in the Caamora project and really gives you an idea of just how much work went into this performance and how hard it was to coordinate and bring everything together for the final product. Although this is the type of special feature that viewers will likely only watch once, it does give the DVD some extra value as it really gives insight into how *She* became a full production and how Caamora was able to pull it off.

If you're really a fan of rock opera or are very familiar with the story of *She* I would certainly say it is worth it to pick up both the CD and DVD that Metal Mind has released. But if you're unfamiliar with Caamora's work or the novel that their opera is based on, I would check out this DVD first and see what you think. It's easy to see that this was a fairly elaborate production, and those who give it a chance will likely feel that was worth their time and has some truly memorable elements.

<http://www.metalmind.com.pl>

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