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Bill's Prog Blog

News, reviews and opinions about the changing world of progressive music. From The Nice to The Mars Volta...Strawbs to Opeth...anything and everything might pop up here.

03 OCTOBER 2008

REVIEW: Marillion - Somewhere in London

No one can accuse **Marillion** of failing to provide new product for their devoted fanbase to devour. Not a year goes by without some live album, DVD, boxed set, or whatever, for Freaks (or Anoraks, I've been out of their scene long enough that I still consider myself a Freak, being a fan from the earlier days) to enjoy.

While there's a pile of new stuff coming out (a new double album, now officially 'leaked' on P2P sites, a 6-CD boxed set of **Fish** era live concerts), today we're taking a look at *Somewhere in London*, the newest double live DVD to come from the band. It covers a pair of London shows from the tour to support *Somewhere Else*, the band's most recent (and fanbase-polarising) release.



Long time fans know Marillion doesn't sit on their laurels. The setlist for this release mirrors this; there is but a single Fish-era track performed here (and that only on the 'bonus' second disc); the rest of the performance draws from the 10 albums the band has recorded with 'new' lead singer **Steve 'h' Hogarth**. It's no longer fair (and hasn't been fair for a long time now) to call him the 'new' lead singer; his tenure in the band far outstrips that of Fish's time with the Marillos. While fans of the 'classic' new wave of British prog rock (NWOBPH) sound may no longer find much in common with what Marillion is doing these days, no one can deny that each album has been different from the one previous...each album is a reaction to the one before, and has no bearing on what will follow. *Somewhere Else* was no exception, and I now it was a very polarising release...as much of the fanbase embraced it and called it their best ever as tossed it aside and called it dross. From that standpoint, perhaps Marillion succeeded beyond their wildest expectations...certainly an album that elicits such wide disparity in opinion has something to offer (my take, in case you were curious...it did

Blog Archive

▼ 2008 (242)

▼ October (38)

The Enid news...

Now Playing...

Gryphon reunion show
postponed

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FMPM 2009

DFA Announced for FMPM 2009

10 Questions With...Gary
Lauzon

SETLIST: Porcupine Tree (DVD
shoot #1)

3RP 2009 festival signings

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with InsideOut Music

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Benjamin

Skeletonbreath tour dates

DUTCH MASTERS SUPERSISTER
TO LIGHT UP NEARFEST
'09...

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Words

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for Progday 2009

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Camiola

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tour with Jack Bruc...

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UME

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released

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Rule

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HARVEST signed for
REOSfe...

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Pendragon: 30th Anniversary
tour dates