

## Marillion - *Somewhere In London*



Performance ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆  
Production ☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

It's hard to keep up with a band who releases as prolific amount of material as Marillion does. They have managed to put out something new every year since their 1983 debut, *Script for a Jester's Tear*, whether it be a new studio album, a new live album, a new compilation album, a new concert DVD, or one of their many fan club releases.

I last checked in on the Marillion camp when I reviewed their excellent 2005 concert DVD, [Marbles On The Road](#), and I figured I was past due to check in on them again. I have not had a chance to pick up their latest album, last year's *Somewhere Else*, yet, but this new concert DVD covers every song from that album in one form or another.

*Somewhere In London* was filmed over the final two nights of Marillion's "Somewhere Else" tour at The Forum, Kentish Town, London, on the 15th and 16th of June 2007. The band performed 22 different songs between the two shows, and every single one of them was included on this teeming two-disk set. Disk one includes the feature-length concert film, and disk two contains seven other songs that were also performed during the two shows, along with some other great special features.

The show kicks off in dramatic fashion as the darkened stage is awakened by some dimly pulsating spotlights, and the intro music to "Splintering Heart" ignites the crowd. Steve Hogarth casually walks out to a barely illuminated stage and begins to pour his heart out over the song's first couple of verses, as he is bathed in an ominous red hue from below. Right after he screams the line "...but not as much as this!", the light show explodes into a dazzling display of lights and colors and Steve Rothery follows with one of the best guitar solos in his repertoire. What an opener.

From there, the band showcases seven songs from the new *Somewhere Else* album, with only a couple of *Marbles* tracks mixed in between. What you think of the *Somewhere Else* album is what will mostly determine whether you find this to be the best Marillion DVD ever, or simply just a very, very good one.

The setlist draws from most of the band's albums of the last two decades, and also includes a couple of very nice surprises. "The Release", which was a bonus track on the 1999 remastered version of *Seasons End*, was dusted off for this tour and served as one of the encore numbers at the first London show. The absolute showstopper, however had to be the band's 16-minute, epic

performance of "Ocean Cloud", which they played on the second night. If you like the more progressive side of Marillion, then you are really going to love this one. The song can only otherwise be found on the two-disc, limited edition, version of *Marbles*, which means that I now have to get that too.

Other highlights for me were the first set closer, "King", which slowly builds up from heart-wrenching ballad to an intense climax. Steve Hogarth is one of the most animated and emotionally invested frontmen in the business, and he was no better than on this performance. Yes, Rothery is the next best thing to David Gilmour, and Trewavas is a monster on the bass guitar, but Hogarth is what really makes this band special.

"Sugar Mice" was the only Fish-era song that can be found on the DVD, and this performance quickly turned into one of the most impressive audience sing-alongs I have ever heard. Hogarth only sang the first line of the song and then the crowd took over from there. I usually find this quite annoying, but this came across as remarkably endearing. "Easter" was more of the same, but it's damn near impossible not sing along to that one. I doubt you will find too many other fan bases that are as dedicated as Marillion's are.

*Somewhere in London* is certainly the best produced concert DVD the band has turned out, thanks in part to Tim Sidwell's superb directing and editing. The band's previous DVD, *Marbles On The Road*, suffered badly from some frantic camera direction, which made it difficult to watch at times. I still would have preferred more medium range and lingering shots that presented the whole stage show, but the overall atmosphere of the concert was captured very well.

PCM stereo and Dolby Digital 5.1 surround mixes are both offered and they each sound superb, although the surrounds are used very sparingly for ambience and a little bit of audience noise. The widescreen video presentation looked excellent.

*Racket Club Rehearsal* featured the band performing five songs, "The Last Century for Man", "Estonia", "Neverland", "Faith", and "See it Like a Baby", in front a handful of lucky fans who got to sit on a large rug in the middle of the band's rehearsal space and watch the magic unfold. The fans looked more shell-shocked than thrilled to be only inches from the band members as they played, which seemed kind of odd when I first watched it. I would have been grinning from ear to ear the whole time. Also included were four excellent 5.1 surround album mixes of the four *Somewhere Else* tracks, "No Such Thing", "A Voice From The Past", "The Wound" and the title track.

Much like their British contemporaries Porcupine Tree, Marillion are a class above the rest of the competition. They consistently put out great albums, and are one of the best live bands in the business. *Somewhere in London* is an exceptional DVD that should not be missed.

*Reviewed by Paul M. Roy - August 2008*

[Comments or Complaints?](#)

### Technical Details

#### **Audio Transfer**

- Dolby Digital 5.1 Surround
- PCM 2.0 Stereo

#### **Video Transfer**

- 1.78:1 - Anamorphic Widescreen

### Set List

- *Main Feature* -

01. Splintering Heart
  02. The Other Half
  03. You're Gone
  04. No Such Thing
  05. Faith
  06. Thankyou Whoever You Are
  07. Fantastic Place
  08. The Wound
  09. A Voice From the Past
  10. Somewhere Else
  11. Man Of A Thousand Faces
  12. Between You And Me
  13. King
  14. The Release
  15. Neverland
- *Disc 2 Additional Songs* -
16. Ocean Cloud
  17. Afraid of Sunlight
  18. Beautiful
  19. Most Toys
  20. Estonia
  21. Sugar Mice
  22. Easter

### Performers

Steve Hogarth - Vocals  
Steve Rothery - Guitars  
Mark Kelly - Keyboards  
Ian Mosley - Drums  
Pete Trewavas - Bass

Directed and Edited by Tim Sidwell

**Running Time:** 158 Minutes (w/ additional songs)

**DVD Release Date** - July 2008  
**Performance Date** - June 2007



[Somewhere in London](#)

Marillion

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