

(Community news, sports and entertainment for Chester, Londonderry, Ludlow, Rockingham, Springfield, West River Valley and Weston.)

Marillion

Somewhere In London (Racket/MVD Visual, 2008) Review by Joe Milliken

Marillion is just one of those bands that makes me shake my head and beg the question; "Why isn't this amazing band much more popular than they are?" This band is talented, deep and compelling, producing album after album of powerful, soulful and intricately progressive songs that is a sound all their own.

Their latest DVD release titled Somewhere In London, is a special two-disc package filmed at the Forum in Kentish Town, London during the final two nights of the bands' 2007 Somewhere Else album tour. The first disc features a feature-length concert film, followed by a second disc of the remaining tracks performed throughout the two nights.

The first disc featuring the main show is outstanding, an invigorating blend of pristine musicianship and deep emotions that is simply stellar. From the opening ominous intro of "Splintering Hear", to the epic explosions of "Ocean Cloud", to the guitar prowess of "The Wound", front man Steve Hogarth and company continue to pour their heart and souls into their live performances... leaving their loyal followers thoroughly satisfied.

Guitarist Stephen Rothery is flat out, one of the most innovative guitarists around, offering inventive structures and blistering solos, while keyboard player extraordinare Mark Kelly is masterful, creating atmospheric soundscapes that wash over the endeared crowd. And lest we forget the driving rhythm section of bassist Pete Trewavas and the wonderfully progressive drumming of Ian Mosley. What a band!

On the second disc, a cover of "Sugar Mice, originally recorded by the original version of the band with Fish as front man," is a truly a gem, along with "Estonia", the always crowd-favorite "Easter" and the aforementioned "Ocean Clod".

Somewhere In London proves yet again that Marillion continues to be one of the most inventive and interesting progressive bands in the land. They deserve much more praise and attention then they receive, especially in America. Bonus features include a segment in which fans visit a private tour rehearsal from the bands' Racket Studio and four surround sound mixes of Somewhere Else album tracks.