

METRO ANE

Marillion

Somewhere in London DVD

MVD Visual



Marillion continue to serve up some of the most lush, intricate progressive rock this side of the lamb and Broadway or maybe Tarkus. And if you get those twisted references, you're going to love this DVD.

Filmed over two nights on their "The Somewhere Else" tour, we're treated to a primer of some of the best songs Marillion has done since Steve Hogarth joined the band. Which is fine by me since some of their most vital, and adventurous work has been done with Hogarth's era.

The stage is well lit and the lights are not the show, the band is and they sound so clean one wonders how his could be live. But it is.

Opening with "Splintering Heart" a slow build to be sure but worth it as this is a band for grown ups; full of self assurance and free of gimmickry. By the time the second track, "Other Half" begins, the small but appreciative crowd at the Forum, Kentish Town in London is on their feet for the mid-tempo rocker.

The rest of the primary disc continues the momentum (15 tracks in all) with high points being performances of:

"Faith," a stripped-down thing of beauty that has Pete Trewavas' (bass) switching to acoustic guitar for front and center performance that is a bright brilliance.

"Man of a Thousand Faces" is classic Marillion, a sound lifted to the heavens on the wings of their unique keyboard voices.

The set is completed with soulful "Neverland."

Bonus material included in the second disc:

Here's Some We Played Earlier- seven tracks from earlier in the tour, apparently. "Sugar Mice" and ""are all but drowned out by the audience singing along to every word. You'll get the chills.

Racket Club Rehearsal- this is what it's about when you buy a concert DVD -- getting to see the things behind the scenes and otherwise you don't normally get with your ticket purchase. Five songs performed in a room a little larger than a walk-in closet for a handful of lucky fans.

5.1 Remixes- four tracks that sounded crisp to begin with get the royal treatment for your high-end hi-fi. -- Mike Wilshin