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Marillion: Somewhere In London



This entry was posted on 7/31/2008 4:00 PM and is filed under [DVD Reviews](#).

Filmed at the London Forum over the final two nights of the group's 2007 tour in support of their most recent album, *Somewhere Else*, this two-DVD concert release shines a light on one of the United Kingdom's better-kept secrets — former prog-rock peddlers [Marillion](#), whose blistering live shows leave an audience full of appreciative, beer-swilling blue-collar-types chanting along for more.

I confess to not knowing a great deal about the band prior to this DVD, but one needn't consult [their AllMusic.com entry](#) to divine the Tolkien-esque roots of their name (*Silmarillion*), or the fact that **their deft touch with lush balladry is originally born not of strict compositional discipline**, but rather a jam-inspired love of noodling and experimentation. At once brooding and cathartic, many of their tunes blend symphonic flourishes with straight-ahead rock 'n' roll — a bit like Pink Floyd or U2, without the high-confessional aspect or grand-scale gestures. This release captures the group in fine form. The track listing from the "main" portion of the concert is as follows: "Splintering Heart," "The Other Half," "You're Gone," "No Such Thing," "Faith," "Thankyou [sic] Whoever You Are," "Fantastic Place," "The Wound," "A Voice From the Past," "Somewhere Else," "Man of a Thousand Faces," "Between You and Me," "King," "The Release" and "Neverland."

Hearteningly, there are **plenty of bonus materials in the form of extra performances**. First up are four surround-sound mixes

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of *Somewhere Else* album tracks — "The Wound," "A Voice From the Past," "No Such Thing" and the title tune. Next up is a 38-minute special sit-down performance in Buckinghamshire, where the band was originally formed. Winners of a special competition are picked up at the local train station, and driven to see the band work through an intimate rehearsal at the Racket Club; the tunes featured here include "The Last Century for Man," "Estonia," "Faith," "Neverland" and "See It Like a Baby." Finally, there's an entire handful of other tunes performed in concert at the Forum, including "Ocean Cloud," "Afraid of Sunlight," "Beautiful," "Most Toys," "Estonia," "Easter" and **the poignant "Sugar Mice," on which the crowd does most of the heavy lifting with respect to the singing.**

Housed in a clear, plastic Amray case with inset trays on each side, this **region-free, widescreen release** has a slipcover featuring a shot of the London Tube, with song credits printed on the inside, along with a smattering of photos. The audio comes in both stereo and 5.1 surround sound, and the production is top-notch, with a variety of fades and overlays creating a nice, artistic tapestry. [For more information, click here.](#) **B (Concert) B+ (Disc)**



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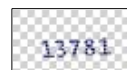
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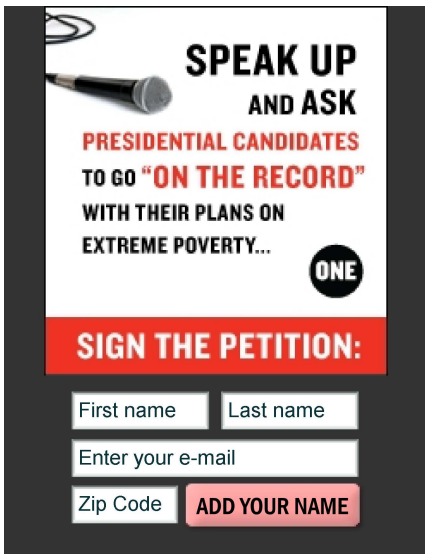
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