

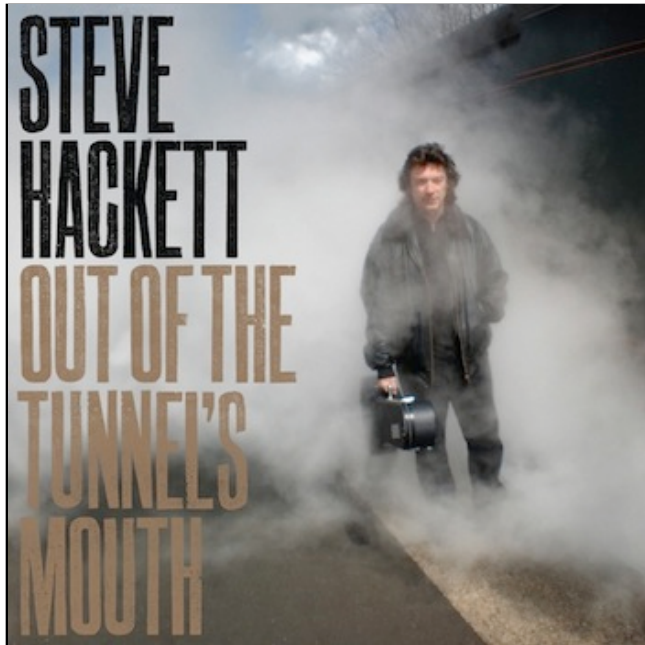


Steve HACKETT - Out Of the Tunnel's Mouth - © Wolfwork's Records 2009



Écrit par Suze

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For his new album, Steve HACKETT puts on the covers again with an opus that's coming back to the international colours: "Out Of The Tunnel's Mouth".

He is here accompanied by a whole pleiad of artists who know him well and know each other very well too.

After "Tribute", an opus that would be qualified like as an ode to BACH, HACKETT returns us to what we all belong: the world. He visits again in music and words this planet where we live, marvellous world of feelings and colours. The Master himself refers about it to one of his preceding albums: "Spectral Mornings". It is the first album completely recorded by his own label "Wolfworks Records".

A melodious sound as like a musical box opens the album with the first title "Fire On The Moon". A starting all carefully for a song full of paradoxes. Did you already see fire without oxygen? We gain in intensity with the muscular intervention of Nick BEGGS (bass) and then we return to softness and so on to form a magic melody, which will prepares us with a splendid solo of electric guitar. The Master is here. He is angry and he wants to show us his torture. He wants to come back again to the past and voyage.

"Nomads" is a homage to all this people of the voyage that a lot rejects without knowing them. Oppressed population by excellence, they knew to make pass all their emotions in these melodies, which make us travel in spite of us. A sweetness followed guitar to an invitation for dancing, as all these people who have the rhythm in the skin. Steve connects with reckless riffs, which involve us in far. Will they find peace?

We find again the theme of temptation woman who took a man in her nets before he realized of anything. "Emerald And Ash" touches with the topic of the femme fatale,

several times approached in the first titles of GENESIS. In spite of the suffering which this woman can generate, who obtains worst by showing the best, it is a piece all with sweetness a power which we deal so as the dramatic of the situation is reflected by a guitar with tragic and obsessing intonations. Plaintive and throbbing riffs explore some sounds which let to us imagine a worthy film-script of a playwright. We can foresee the depravities of a man in front of the woman in all her splendour.

This is a title for people who need emergency to love and which affection the risk: "Tubehead". Nick BEGGS touches one of his favourite sounds, the guitar is eclectic and...electric which Steve doesn't waver to maltreat. No drum on this album but a crowd of other instruments, which finally, return the similar one well to it.

Sweetness takes again the top with "Sleepers". The guitar becomes romantic and the violins are of setting for this piece inspired by a message sent from Italy: "All the sleepers send you their dreams". We penetrate in the phantasmagoric universe of the dream where grinds melodies slip the ones on the others to come get mixed up in the reality of our unconscious desires. This marvellous piece charms us meanwhile nearly nine minutes.

A bridge between the styles, between the generations, between the old and the new one, between softness and power, "Ghost In The Glass", puts in honour this instrument that takes life under the hands of the Master. Violin and Viola superbly wire for sound the bottom of this instrumental piece.

A completely different trick, "Still Waters", a Blues piece. A hot voice, waving choruses, a guitar that gives all its heart. Blues met Gospel in New Orleans, Steve had adored it and all feels it. Jo LEHMAN is at the origin of the words of that song which releases an almost animal sensuality, a call in the night.

The last piece of this album, "The Last Train To Istanbul", takes us along in the magic world of the Orient. Steve found the inspiration of it in course of a voyage to Sarajevo where mysterious melodies took him along on a marvellous flying carpet, which had of cease to torture the meanders of a fertile inspiration. A whole series of sounds return to an atmosphere of thousand and one nights. One easily imagines a musical and human tour through the enigmatic Orient with one of the most romantic destination on train: Istanbul. Paroxystic romanticism put forward by a hypnotic electronic drum.

This marvellous album made me dream. It made me imagine the unimaginable. It confirms that Steve HACKETT is well a citizen of the world when he has composed it; magic melodies, throbbing, doleful; shimmering solos of guitar; emotions that make it possible to feel his imagination; a compact team; an extraordinary Steve HACKETT. The years pass, but I have met there a man eternally renewed by his passions. An ode to the life, the love and to the world. That comes from a great Gentleman



Chroniqueur : Suze

Line-up

Tracklist

Steve Hackett - Guitars, Acoustic Guitars
& Vocals
Nick Beggs - Bass & Chapman Stick
Dick Driver - Double Bass
John Hackett - Flute
Roger King - Keyboards & Programming
Lauren King - Backing Vocals
Ferenc Kovacs - Violin
Amanda Lehmann - Vocals
Jo Lehmann - Backing Vocals
Anthony Phillips - 12-String Guitar
Chris Squire - Bass
Christine Townsend - Violin, Viola
Rob Townsend - Soprano Saxophone

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01. Fire On The Moon (6:12)
 02. Nomads (4:32)
 03. Emerald And Ash (8:59)
 04. Tubehead (3:37)
 05. Sleepers (8:51)
 06. Ghost In The Glass (3:00)
 07. Still Waters (4:35)
 08. Last Train To Istanbul (5:57)

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