

Mp3 Eystone - Up For Air



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Honey-drizzled acoustic rock peppered 'til it kicks. 11 MP3 Songs ROCK: Modern Rock, ROCK: Acoustic

Details: "Whatever mood you happen to be in now, this music will find a way to fit into your head and make sense. The one thing that does make perfect sense...is that this music is very good and something you should pay attention to. It is top shelf rock-pop." -Keith "MuzikMan" Hannaleck - January 25, 2004

Sometimes we can find great beauty in the dark corners of the world. The members of Eystone are clearly aware of this fact, for they transform the bleaker moments of life's journey into gorgeous music built upon broad acoustic guitar strokes and elegant harmonies, with wonderfully poetic lyrics floating on top. The band--Karen Rush on acoustic guitar and lead vocals, Pete Rizzo on percussion, John Messenger on bass and vocals, and Victor Munoz on guitar and vocals--plays heartfelt songs of broken relationships and chasing dreams. Eystone transforms these common experiences into occasionally rocking, occasionally stark, and always beautiful pop songs. Considering the introspective nature of the material, one might call the songs on Up For Air "mood-pop." The eleven songs on Up For Air are a study of the duality of dark situations and optimistic attitudes. Of the title track, Rush says, "Recording took a lot longer than we thought it would. It actually turned into this three year epic, and my life changed dramatically during that time. Basically, I had a huge wake up call. 'Up For Air' is basically about coming out from the depths of my dark side, and...opening my eyes. It's about someone special in my life being there, that WAS there before, but I didn't even realize it." Starting as a slow, sad ballad, the music brightens at the chorus and, like gray clouds parting for a ray of sunlight, Rush sings "If this is what it's like to be drowning/ finding you is like coming up for air." Each song on the album is infused with the care and passion one would expect on a debut. Listen to the slightly funky "On The Inside," or the bouncy "Unusual," a love song that has hints of Counting Crows in its melody. The slightly murky, slightly

mysterious quality of the album greatly enhances songs like "Maybe..." With music written by John Messenger, and anchored upon his imaginative bass work, the song boasts an almost Indian raga droning, and the vibe stays dark and moody, before ultimately giving way to the optimistic sounding chorus. Rush says, "The words to that just kind of flowed. That was a song we started playing a few months into the recording process, and...it's about where I was at before I made a lot of changes in my life." The radio-ready pop of "The One (Angels)" is awash in melody, and it also happens to be Rush's personal favorite on the album. "We were playing at a venue in Asbury Park called The Saint, and the owner asked us to play a Christmas song, so I figured I'd write one," she says. "I wrote that in about two hours. At first I played it acoustically, but when I played it to the band, it just turned into this amazing, kick-ass song." Eystone's influences reflect their appreciation of all styles of music. Comparisons to the first Letters To Cleo album are sure to be made. Rush's vocals, which run the gamut from soft and demure to loud and raucous, do recall the rawness of a younger Kay Hanley. Other influences like Jewel, Alanis Morissette, Chrissie Hynde, and Tori Amos all find their way into the mix, and the result is a highly satisfying, original sounding amalgamation. Eystone, formerly known as the Karen Rush Band, have been playing music together since 2001. The band, based in NYC, regularly perform before enthusiastic crowds at noted venues such as Arlene's Grocery, The Acoustic Cafe, and the Hard Rock Cafe, and they have a growing legion of fans. Up For Air, their gripping, self-produced debut album, is sure to not only please those fans, but to win many new converts, as well.

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