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review board:

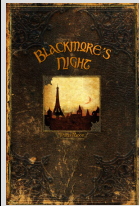
[View all reviews](#)[Submit your own reviews](#)**The Sounding Board by R J Lannan**

RJ Lannan is the reviewer for The Sounding Board.

Other reviews from The Sounding Board by R J Lannan:

- *Wildernessed* by Patrick Burke, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 2/12/2008
- *Paris Moon* by Blackmore's Night, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 2/12/2008
- *Music from My Heart* by Margie Balter, reviewed by RJ Lannan on 1/31/2008

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Paris Moon
By Blackmore's Night
 Label: SPV Recordings
 Released 11/6/2007

Paris Moon tracks

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. Past Times with Good Company/
Rainbow Blues | 6. Home Again |
| 2. Play Minstrel Play | 7. Ariel |
| 3. World of Stone | 8. The Clock Ticks On |
| 4. Under A Violet Moon | 9. Fires at Midnight |
| 5. Minstrel Hall | 10. The Village Lanterne (Studio
Version) |
| | 11. All Because of You (Radio Edit) |

...Stars are out and Magic is here

I can get you tickets to this concert! Call it what you will - Art Rock, Progressive Rock, Dream Rock or what I call Renaissance Rock. Whatever term you can think up for a band that has been together for over a decade, that dazzles worldwide audiences with their blending of the "olde" and the new, then **Blackmore's Night** is what you have. On a stage festooned with flickering lanterns, towering castles and fluttering pennants the band takes us in and out of history in a mix of Old World tunes brought up to date, familiar pop songs, and Progressive rock of the highest caliber. Guitarist **Ritchie Blackmore** and songstress **Candice Night** perform at their best on this DVD/CD album live in Paris titled aptly [Paris Moon](#).

The show opens with **Past Times With Good Company** from the album *Under A Violet Moon*. This is a rollicking tune that gets the audience warmed up for what is to come.

World Of Stone is a wondrous tune pulled from the Middle Ages that tells the tale of Jeanne D'Arc, the Maiden of Orleans (Joan of Arc for you non-French speakers) who fought the English in 1429. It was a time when religion was used as a weapon and the entire world had to be made up of true believers or there were mortal consequences to be suffered. The final lyric goes...

*"And they will never break our spirit
 We will never turn and run
 And we will rise stronger still
 When we stand as one!"*

Candice Night looks and sounds like a fairy princess come to life. Her warm, rich contralto exacts passion and playfulness from every tune. She is joined by her singer/sisters (really) **Lady Madeline** and **Lady Nancy**. Blackmore shuns the spotlight more than once during the concert, but his unique fingerpicking and perfectionist's style stands at the forefront on all the cuts. There are a few instrumentals on the album and video as well as some surprising solos by the various band members. One particular solo by keyboardist **Bard David of Larchmont** brings the house down with his classical interpretations while bassist -----**Sir Robert of Normandy** and drummer **Squire Malcolm of Lumley** wow the fans with a lively semi-improvisation called **Bach Haus**. Blackmore's instrumentals are sharp, imaginative and timeless. **Fires at Midnight** and **Minstrel Hall** both contain Blackmore's electrifying signature solo fretwork that just proves that he is a world-class guitarist. His fingers have a spirit of their own and he just goes somewhere else mentally while the magic happens.

I've said it before and I'll say it again, I like the song **Streets of London**. I liked it when folksinger Roger

Whittaker did it in the sixties and I love it when Candice makes it her own. It is a gritty tune taken out of the pages of Charles Dicken's *Oliver* when life was cruel and character was everything.

Candice sings an audience favorite in the tune ***Renaissance Fair***. It is probably the group's best-known and beloved song that brings back the time of lords and ladies, jugglers and jesters and music for the sake of celebration.

The concert closes with the popular ***The Village Lanterne***, a ballad that says everything to every fan who loves the genre. The song is that of a soldier returning from battle to hearth and home, more world-weary from the experience. And, as Dorothy once proclaimed, "There's no place like home."

The quality of the performance on **Paris Moon** is outstanding. You cannot help but enjoy the music when you see that the band loves what they are doing. The CD contains eleven tracks while the DVD has 20. There is also a behind the scenes documentary on the DVD as well. If you have never heard **Blackmore's Night** then I offer you this opportunity to hear a unique sound of quality music, a distinctive theme and fun all blended together like an alchemist's dream for a night of magic.

Rating: Excellent 

- reviewed by RJ Lannan on 2/12/2008

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