

## **To Review of Blackmore's Night-Secret Voyage**

I felt compelled to write another review of Secret Voyage due to the misinformed and inexperienced review provided by Nicki McIntyre, who wrote one review for us then suddenly disappeared. The review she provided proved that she has no clue about the music of Ritchie Blackmore and Candace Night, not to mention the meaning, purpose and culture behind it all. This will cancel out the nonsensical verbiage previously posted.

Secret Voyage is in fact one their best efforts to date filled with beautiful singing from Candace, great harmonies, and some of Blackmore's finest guitar licks interlaced with the dreamy days gone by lyrics that transport you back to medieval times in a blink of an eye.

Blackmore's Night creates unique music and the difficulty of producing this style of music should be not be underestimated. I cannot think of anyone that makes music like this anywhere in the world and certainly there are few bands with a guitar player with the experience and ability of a Ritchie Blackmore. In addition to that, Candace Night has one of the most electrifying and mesmerizing vocal styles I have ever heard.

You do not get anything unexpected on this recording, rather what you would count on is present, the excellent combination of acoustic and electric six-string mastery from Blackmore and simple storylines about people with uncomplicated lives minus the insanity and uncertainty of today. This brings to mind a conversation I just had with my next-door neighbor this morning. This individual was brought up in a different time, which seems so innocent in comparison to the harshness and lack of morality we experience now. She was prompted to say "everything about today's world is wrong now." I could hardly disagree because there is not much right about it. Music like this makes all of that melt away and then you wish you could jump in a time machine but Blackmore's Night so eloquently speaks to this with their music and words that you find yourself back there with them as they make their way through this album.

Even when they do a cover song like "Can't Help Falling In Love" they hit the mark. Everything about this is right and that is what makes it so good. Yes, I have covered all of their albums and I do love them and there may be a bit of biased in my feeling towards their work, however at least I understand what they are all about and appreciate their music, which puts me a few steps ahead of someone who never heard them before.

**4 stars**

Keith "MuzikMan" Hannaleck

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