Thank you to the music writer and critic Riccardo Storti for the lovely review of "For the Love of Greg Lake".❤️

English translation

Second album for Paola Tagliaferro and La Compagnia Dell'Es, this one also dedicated to the memory and work of Greg Lake; the CD received the record label’s imprimatur from Manticore, the historic independent label born in the 1970s at the behest of E.L. & P. themselves.

The tracklist retraces the career of the singer-songwriter/bassist, as well as of the famous trio, King Crimson and Asia, interspersing famous hits with lesser-known tracks. The songbook from which Tagliaferro draws ranges from the primal In the Court of the Crimson King to some E.L. & P. musts (Pictures at an Exhibition, Tarkus, Works Volume 1, and Works Volume 2), through the first self-titled solo album, to the recently penned Ride the Tiger in 2015 with Geoff Downes of Asia (founder of The Buggles and former Yes member).

As happened in the first album, Paola Tagliaferro sings Greg Lake, the singer's reinterpretation is a respectful tribute which nonetheless allows for necessary interpretative freedom, primarily given by the vocal approach: the measured timbre, capable of ranging carefully from low to high notes, enables Tagliaferro to present Lake's songbook in a changing light. The overall product also gains added value from the band's contribution: outstanding is the keyboard direction of the experienced Luca Scherani, but the rest is equally notable with classical chamber music (the viola of Giulia Ermirio), rock and folk guitars (Pier Gonella, also employed on bass and adept at retracing Gary Moore's path in It Hurts) and a percussive arrangement in tune with the album's mood (the drums of Dario Canepa with the addition of idiophonic inserts by Gino Ape on the xylophone).

The most convincing moments of the album remain the unprecedented ballad spirit à la Nick Drake in Watching Over You, the jazzy piano flexions of Scherani in Stones of Years, the intense almost classical lyricism (voice and piano) of The Only Way, the prog expansions in I Talk to the Wind (the idea of alternating Moog and cello solos is beautiful) and the solemn closing with The Great Gates of Kiev.

Noteworthy opportunities for rediscovery Lend Your Love to Me Tonight, In Affairs of the Heart, and All I Want is You, in line with Lake's creative dictum and pleasant for the pathos of Tagliaferro's interpretation.

(Riccardo Storti)

Grazie allo scrittore e critico musicale Riccardo Storti per la bella recensione di “ For The Love Of Greg Lake”

Clicca qui per la recensione in italiano