**The Verdict**

**The Production:**

**The Vibe:**

**The Music:**

**The Band:**

**The Ugly:**

**The Bad:**

**The Good:**

**Sounds Like:**

**Genre:**

**Website:**

http://www.reverbnation.com/eschersenigma

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The Review (Rockville, CT) Escher’s Enigma (Russ and Brian Miller) are no stranger to musical movement. Their father/son band is composed of two veteran rockers who have returned with a new EP entitled “Piece of Mind”.

Having cut their teeth with multiple releases to their credit they have also enjoyed a healthy dose of tinkering around in their home studio no doubt. Escher’s Enigma benefits from two generations of musicians who share a passion for classic and arena rock, but have a variety of tastes in contemporary music and production. This father/son duo create original acoustic pop/rock music. I honestly can’t think of a better time than now to unleash the kind of classic retro style of rock music to the world. Having listened to the radio today - most would agree it’s time for something different. This latest 5 song EP teaser called “Piece of Mind” is outfitted with a distinctly familiar 80’s style rock feel with a Pop-Rock edge that takes no prisoners. The EE sound, personality just gives the music credible bulk and authenticity. Make no mistake – these 2 are very interesting and a little dangerous. These 2 who have a combined 40+ years of performing and recording rock and pop music in a wide variety of settings. Russ Miller has been playing the bass and recording professionally since the 1970s, while his son Brian has been playing guitar and piano, as well as singing, professionally since 2005.

“Piece of Mind” is a collaborative project. Both musicians participated in the writing of “Here for the Last Time”, “Word Choice”, “Keep Reaching”, and “Safety Net”, while Backstreet Boy was written by longtime friend Brian Moran. Brian Miller handled the guitars, vocals, midi programming and most of the keyboards, while Russ played the bass guitar. The piano on “Keep Reaching” was contributed by Michael Murphy. B Miller’s airy vocal style and dreamy guitar landscape backed by a non-urgent crack of the Bass and drums gives perfect dimension to the opener, “Here for the Last Time”. It’s a tune that takes its time to build but when it peaks it is an immediate transport to days past, and a welcome one at that. Radically following is “The Write Words” a cool play on words which opens with a thick guitar riff and then transforms into something ferocious and delicious. This second track sounds like a combination of Kiss and Green Day. Coming back down a bit with “Keep Reaching” with hooks in all the right places and could easily stand shoulder to shoulder with Sublime, Batmobile, The Meteors, Demented Are Go and The Quakes. But it’s on the last two songs, “Safety Net” and “Backstreet Boy” really shine the brightest. Coming full circle with influence from the past and modern day musical mentality, these beauties inspire that eyes squeezed lightly shut drifting off feeling brought about by the likes of Bon Jovi, The Who, Van Halen. Much of this EP is more like a thrumming of the heart, as a perfectly wrought rock song should be able to do.

**The Bad:**

EP Sounds a bit repetitive.

**The Ugly:**

I don’t get the cover art?!? What’s the point of this picture, and how does it relate to the album title?

**The Bottom Line**

It’s also obvious that The Miller’s dream team has not taken their experience lightly, nor is this latest effort a heavy-handed product top dollar product. It’s nice to see a real good band play over my speakers for a change. With a well-trained ear for what brought them to my ears in the first place Escher’s Enigma have given us 5 hot new tracks to chew on and offered the world a cutting edge glimpse of this amazing style of music that inspires. We can only hope that there is much more where this came from.

Danne特 Gabner edited by Markus Drury
Indieshark Music Critic

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