Father Son dynamic duo Escher Enigma just released the latest effort entitled Piece of Mind.

Stocked full of hooks and a jovial playing style that never lets its guard down, to melodies which linger long after the playing has passed, Piece of Mind provides 5 buoyant and inventive tracks which play like new adventures, yet approaches them like old friends you feel you've known for a long time. This latest release pleasantly embraces the ears and is in a league all by itself with an elite spirit of eagerness and vibrancy. The unique melodies soak every accomplished note from the beginning of Here for the Last Time through to climactic end of Backstreet Boy. It offers many musical familiarities, wearing those inspirations proudly on its sleeve showcasing eclectic musical influences hinged on impressive musicianship and a unique signature sound. Case in point: This is one of the most original sounding bands I've heard in quite some time. I can hear traces of Phish, Counting Crows, Hootie and the Blowfish, Tim Reynolds, Connells, and Béla Fleck and the Flecktones. Mostly they sound like a '90s rock band to me. It's fair to say that the CD does not come down from the high of Track 2 The Write Words and hypnotic Track 3 Keep Reaching.

Though it certainly provides a consistent balance of genres listed above, as the CD slowly advances the melodies, addictive hooks return sporadically from time to time with a beckoning potency far away from the mediocre mainstream. Bottom line: there's something much more tangible about this release compared to most of the CDs that slide across my desk this year seems very pure. All tracks emerge from a modest sonic web producing much in the way of thick bass lines, jumpy vocals, smashing solo guitar, earthy yet thick thymes and consistent Bass. The instruments, and subsequent meticulous movements provided by this experienced band will leave their mark on you instinctually and inspire the imagination. Millers voice does not jump out but has a modest quality which defines itself and work well within the setting of each piece. His mesmerizing baritone coupled with the acoustical exuberance paints you an impressive picture upon a virulent musical canvas.

My favorite track is probably Safety Net with Keep Reaching a close second. Backstreet Boy is another interminably seductive piece offering waning poetic ambience and sure musical direction. Though maybe this is one song which fails to linger and return like the others, but is a riveting tidbit nonetheless. I do however wish there was more music, and maybe one real slow song to with the EP.

Piece of Mind by Escher Enigma is a good listen any way you slice it. It's a ripe musical invitation into the world of a red hot band from the East coast. At the least it will satisfy many, thus filling the void left by millions of bands who cannot dive this deep not even close. This outliner style of music is not only mastered by the Miller father son dreamteam, it also deserves a much wider and attentive audience to say the least...
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Posted by Michael Morrison, West Lothian (UK).
Rating: 7/10