



Heart of Steel: *CD Reviews*

Greg Rapaport - *Wyrd*

January 2003 | Released: 2001, Independent | Rating: 4.0/5 | Reviewer: JP

And now for my favorite part of the show...the guitar solo! Yep, time to review a great indie CD by a guitar god in training by the name of Greg. This is a solo CD in every sense of the word with Greg doing EVERYTHING on it including the drum programming, which, for a nice change, do not sound like a computer.

Instrumental CD's can go one way or the other and on this one Greg chooses a fairly traditional route, namely each song is a showcase for his talents in a different style. We have it all shred, jazzy, funky fusion stuff, epic stuff with keyboards he covers all the bases. His technical proficiency is impressive and I enjoyed listening to each composition.

The production is good; the packaging is nice although it is missing the virtually mandatory shot of the artist hugging his guitar! What's up with that? Does he have no respect for the sacred traditions of instrumental guitar hero solo albums? One tradition he does stick to is some odd song titles. 'Bug Juice' being my favorite although 'Powderburn' and opener '11th Portal' hold court as the best cuts in my mind. Rapaport has a style reminiscent of Satriani overall, namely not too over the top but can rip when he has to.

A short review, but what more can I say except guitar fans must check out this phenomenal talent, that writes decent songs too. It's too bad there is such a small market for this type of thing because if there were I feel Rapaport would be spoken about in the same breath as the big guns. Shrapnel Records or Lion Records should really take a listen to this guy! I'm glad I did.