Chris Rea - Fool (If You Think Its Over) [2008]



01-chris_rea-josephine 02-chris_rea-on_the_beach 03-chris_rea-road_to_hell 04-chris_rea-fool_(if_you_think_its_over) 05-chris_rea-stainsby_girl 06-chris_rea-lets_dance 07-chris_rea-someday_my_peace_will_come 08-chris_rea-dancing_the_blues_away 09-chris_rea-long_is_the_time_hard_is_the_road 10-chris_rea-baby_dont_cry 11-chris_rea-speed 12-chris_rea-born_bad 13-chris_rea-sometimes 14-chris_rea-blues_for_janice 15-chris_rea-the_shadow_of_a_fool Instruments [All Instruments Played By], Performer – Chris Rea

Chris Rea released "Fool (If You Think It's Over)" in April of 1978 in his homeland, but the song failed to make any impact. By July of that same year, Rea had his first American Top 40 single with the same song, as "Fool" made it to number 12 on the Billboard charts. The song helped its parent album, Whatever Happened to Benny Santini?, reach number 49 in Britain, eventually selling 500,000 copies and earning Rea a gold disk. After the song's success in America, the U.K. gave it another chance, and the second time around it peaked at the number 30 spot. Although it was nominated for a Grammy, the song didn't win, but this recognition gave Rea incentive to focus more on his writing, which led to his decision of not touring to support the album, despite the fact that his label wanted him to. Of course, Rea's strongest attribute is his nearly hoarse but soothing voice, which is what gives "Fool" (and the bulk of his material) its appeal. Rea's marbly texture makes this average love song seem much more emotive and passionate, cloaking his voice over the music's fragile tempo but stirring up enough movement to keep it from being a sleeper. Its gentle harmony is barely noticed, since most of the attention is focused on Rea's laid back and low-key style. In 1982, England's Elkie Brooks fared better than Rea did with her version of the song, taking it to number 17 on the British charts. Chris Rea's career increasingly improved in Europe throughout the '80s, especially after the release of 1985's Shamrock Diaries, which sported solid songwriting that pertained to his English surroundings. --- Mike DeGagne, allmusic.com

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