The Marmalade – Reflections of The Marmalade (1970)



1 Super Clean Jean 2 Carolina In My Mind 3 I'll Be Home (In A Day Or So) 4 And Yours Is A Piece Of Mine 5 Some Other Guy 6 Kaleidoscope 7 Dear John 8 Fight Say The Mighty 9 Reflections Of My Life 10 Life Is + Bonus tracks: 11 Rollin' My Thing 12 Rainbow 13 The Ballad Of Cherry Flavor 14 My Little One 15 Is Your Life Your Own 16 Stay With Me Baby 17 Can You Help Me 18 Some Fine Day 19 Evening Shadows
Dean Ford - lead vocal Graham Knight - bass, harmony vocals Alan Whitehead - Drums Pat Fairley - acoustic guitar Junior Campbell - keyboardsm electric guitars, harmony vocals

The group's second album is a diverse collection of tracks that manages to take in elements of country-rock, lite-rock, and psychedelia -- and occasionally comes up with winning moments do to some tight songwriting. The band had a great sound that seemed to fall somewhere between the Small Faces and Bread. As much of a vehicle as the album might have been for "Reflections of My Life," there are several tracks that manage to stand out after a few listens. From the excellent bit of countrified harmony pop that is "Carolina on My Mind" to the fragile, baroque ballads like "Dear John" and "And Yours in Piece of Mine," the group delivers flowery soft rock with Left Banke-esque touches and dashes of Moog. The track "Kaleidescope" is precisely the kind of psychedelic overload you would expect. "Fight Say the Mighty" takes the rollicking country-rock route for awhile before dropping in a buzzing Moog and a disorienting, crashing cymbal at the end of each chorus. "Reflections of My Life" is probably the group's finest moment as it fuses harmony, colorful orchestration, and soul music into one triumphant four-minute pop song. The guitar solo featured in the middle is one that must have fallen from the pages of George Harrison's songbook. "And Yours in Piece of Mine" follows the same formula as "Reflections," while not soaring quite so high, but still managing to effectively blend syrupy orchestration and harpsichord. Through and through, the pop guitar work of Junior Campbell and vocalist Dean Ford manage to make things consistently interesting. If you are a fan of psychedelic lite-pop and soft folk-rock, this is a great release from a great, unsung band.
---Jon Pruett, AllMusic Review

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