

Pat Benatar – Tropico (1990)

Written by bluesever

Monday, 12 October 2009 15:55 - Last Updated Wednesday, 17 October 2018 20:56

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1. *Diamond Fields* 2. *We Belong* 3. *Painted Desert* 4. *Temporary Heroes* 5. *Love is a Battlefield* 6. *Ooh Ooh Song* 7. *Outlaw Blues* 8. *Suburban King* 9. *A Crazy World Like This* 10. *Takin' It Back* + 11. *Love in the Ice Age* Bass – Donnie Nossov, Roger Capps (tracks: 2 & 3) Drums – Myron Grombacher Guitar, Harmonica – Neil Geraldo Keyboards – Charlie Giordano Vocals – Pat Benatar

On *Tropico*, Pat Benatar began refashioning her sound, moving toward a more middle-of-the-road sound as evidenced by the hit single "We Belong." The change in direction revitalized the singer, resulting in her best album since *Precious Time*. ---Stephen Thomas Erlewine, AllMusic Review

The keyboards are in the background by now, but the drums have acquired an obnoxious electronic sound, and the guitars focus on playing distorted chords instead of catchy licks. It's not an improvement. There are a lot of midtempo ballads here, most of which Pat didn't write; on the hit "We Belong" she's in fine voice, but nobody needs to hear half-baked tunes like "Love In The Ice Age" or "A Crazy World Like This." The rock numbers lack any of the band's earlier drama - with no dynamics changes or riffs, "Ooh Ooh Song" and "Temporary Heroes" are rote and boring. Capps apparently left while the album was being made; Donnie Nossov plays most of the bass parts. ---warr.org

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