

Safire - All Because Of You (2013)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 03 April 2013 16:23 - Last Updated Wednesday, 02 January 2019 23:17

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01. *Say You Love Me* 02. *I'll Be There* 03. *All Because of You* 04. *Dying* 05. *In Your Arms*
06. *Why* 07. *1995* 08. *Memories Live Again* 09. *Let You Go* 10. *I'd Just Like To Say* 11.
Could've Been Beautiful 12. *Only Forever* 13. *Making Me Feel* Personnel: Jase Old - lead
and backing vocals Steve Martret - guitars, backing vocals Aaron Suter - keyboards, backing
vocals Mozz Walters - bass, backing vocals Bill Georgio - drums, backing vocals

Australia has produced lately excellent Melodic Hard Rock acts, but the land of Oz never was precisely the mecca for the genre. One of the bands keeping the flame alive during the nineties around the Melbourne circuit was SAFIRE, whom released a very nice self-titled EP in 1995 that have acquired quite reputation amongst collectors. Now, after a 18 year break, all Safire original members have finally reunited to record a new album entitled "All Because Of You".

Safire's Melodic Rock sound is strongly infused by AOR elements, especially keyboard stabs and elaborated harmony vocals; all members contribute backings for good measure. Stylistically, the quintet recalls eighties European bands of the genre, particularly from UK. I hear similarities with Change of Heart, Shy, Steve Overland, first Dare and obviously comparisons with pioneer Aussie bands could be made, being Roxus and Juno Roxas the first coming to mind.

Solid melodies crafted by melodic guitars garnish rockers like "Say You Love Me", "In Your Arms", the extremely catchy "Memories Live Again" and the soaring "Crying". All really good and performed with good pulse. The sound turns more sharp close to Melodic Hard on the punchy, Shy-like "Let You Go" and the groovy "Only Forever".

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As said, Safire plays AOR too, and the ballads are impregnated with classy melodies: the beautiful acoustically filled "Why" and the American sounding, piano-driven "Could've Been Beautiful" For the end Safire has reserved one of the highlights of the CD; "Making Me Feel", perhaps the track which best represents their sound: AOR overtones at the beginning and then explodes into a catchy Melodic Rock song with a winner chorus. --- 0dayrockz.blogspot.com

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