Wpisany przez bluelover Wtorek, 13 Październik 2009 12:13 - Zmieniony Wtorek, 10 Maj 2016 21:34

Backstreet Boys - This Is Us (2009)



1. Straight Through My Heart 2. Bigger 3. Bye Bye Love 4. All Of Your Life (You Need Love) 5. If I Knew Then 6. This Is Us 7. PDA 8. Masquerade 9. She's A Dream 10. Shattered 11. Undone + 12. All In My Head 13. Callin' Your Name 14. Don't Try This At Home 15. Fallen Angel 16. Funny Face 17. Helpless 18. Hologram 19. International Luv 20. Straight through my heart 21. Trouble

Since their mid-2000s reunion, the Backstreet Boys have been acting like adults so it's not entirely a surprise that they've decided to shake things up on This Is Us, their third album of the comeback and second since becoming a quartet. Teaming up once again with Max Martin and working with a host of modern hitmakers as RedOne, the group takes a left turn back toward the rhythm-heavy, harmony-laden dance-pop that made their reputation a decade before. Never mind the name of the album -- the group is tellingly quite willing to fade into background, letting the producers do their work, just content to sing the hooks. It's a sharp move in two ways: BSB never had as much on-record charisma as *NSync, their best trait was how they could sell a hook without affect, and that returns here. Of course, it helps that they have a bunch of hooks here, too -- hooks that aren't quite as galvanizing as "I Want It That Way," but easily eclipsing those on the pedestrian Unbreakable, helping the band seem modern without seeming pandering. It's a move that the New Kids on the Block couldn't pull off on their tawdry, sex-obsessed comeback, and it's one that the Backstreets seemed incapable of doing just a few years ago, but on This Is Us, the group sounds great for their age, and they sound like they're at their peak -- which is no guarantee of a hit, but it sure makes for a better album than they've produced in quite a while. --- Stephen Thomas Erlewine, allmusic.com

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