## Moonstriker - Chronos (2015)



01. Zephyr 02. Contact 03. Helios 04. Hollow Tree 05. Ansible 06. Ellipses 07. lota 08. Vega 09. Atlas 10. Arcturus 11. Azure 12. Polaris 13. Light Cycles Joel DeMartino - Vocals Ethan Sharp - Guitar Cody Bolt - Bass Colin Tevis – Drums

The members of Berks County foursome MoonStriker bill themselves (perhaps somewhat tongue-in-cheek) as a "space rock" band. However, unlike most bands trying to capture that kind of sound, MoonStriker is more rooted in classical songwriting than hippie jam-session spontaneity and post-shoegaze ambience.

Wait, there's more. Forgoing the usual density of bands with similar thematic interests, MoonStriker instead favors an agile, airy style that gives its music a lighter, brighter demeanor. A refreshing change, the feel here is still meditative but less moody. Call it feel-good space-rock, if you like.

Blending inspiration from looser, more old-school space-rock acts of the 1970s with modern-day garage rock, prog rock, indie and even a little surf, perhaps the most admirable thing about MoonStriker is the clarity of the band's vision and the way the group utterly owns its sound. While precursors are identifiable, nothing on this album feels borrowed. There are no rip-offs or homages here. This is the sound of four confident, experienced musicians uninterested in trying to sound like anyone but themselves.

If someone pressed me to compare MoonStriker to another band, I'm sure I could do it with a little time 'n' effort, but I'd much rather say MoonStriker sounds like MoonStriker: A little pop and a little alt. Mostly, though? A whole damn lot of rock. --- 570minefire.wordpress.com

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