

RED BY ISADAR

REVIEW WRITTEN BY STEVE SHEPPARD

This would turn out to be an unusual review for me to do, I would really have to search my soul to feel this album around me and allow it to touch me in the same way as they events that have conspired over the years to touch musician Isadar to bring forth a real hard hitting, emotional roller coaster of the release RED.

Red is a true bittersweet relationship tester, **Broken Valentine** I almost felt was not only dark but also chaotic. Isadar as a unique quality to enable him to almost read you a story through his style of playing, you are literally travelling through the heart and mind with the musician and in Broken Valentine, through the journey perhaps of a dysfunctional relationship.

The title track is placed at two and **Red** seems to once more take you through this ever changing and emotive journey of love good or bad, it's a piece that I found almost representative of being able to watch your life and love back in the wonderful luxury of hindsight and smart at the bad decisions and smile at the fond memories, love is indeed red and as close to anger in emotions as indeed is the colour.

The man who broke my heart was written about Isadar's relationship problems with his father, as a listener and reviewer I found this piece almost cried out to me at such a deep level and you could almost hear the child crying alone in a dark corner of his bedroom with that helpless feeling of dejection and let down hanging over your head, this is a deeply felt composition, but where we see the music being the healer.

The Stairwell I can honestly say is the track I felt the most moved by, the beginning of this track could easily be a soundtrack for a blockbusting suspense movie, it has that emotive quality about it and indeed while listening to this piece and the next one I was almost moved to tears myself.

Who could have imagined what occurred in or on the stairwell and the caressing of the keys by Isadar on this piece almost imprints memories into the very walls of this place, from the stairwell and almost towards the end of this piece I could sense a light starting to appear from the darkness, perhaps a chink of brightness from a distant window close to the Stairwell?

Letting Go I found a difficult track personally for me, as one who has just come out of a thirty eight year relationship it is always hard to let go, especially of those like my late wife who has passed over. Part of the healing process is to eventually let go, but not just of the physical relationship but of all the regrets and guilt. Here this track really hits the nail right on the head, it deals with the very essence of the letting go process, it reflects the turbulence of emotions that seems to echo in the hard playing within this piece, as Isadar plays forcefully you can almost hear him working through this very process and of course the end result is what we should always have freedom, this piece is the perfect musical representation of the letting go process, as Isadar says about the album, it's bittersweet.

En Face Du Miroir (Facing The mirror) This a composition of hope and renewal, but most of all courage, here Isadar's style seems to be more reflective on his journey, the feeling from the chords and structure is almost like a person has come through a great time of struggle and at this point is

literally looking down into his own soul for a time of reflection, the journey seems to be endless and the style here seems to reflect that and in the moment when love and hate collide there is always our passion that will set us free.

Blood Thicker Than Water, this is the ultimate track to end such an album with, from the journey of love and emotions, here Isadar starts with a dark reflective style, but that soon changes to a more upbeat conflict and resolution feel, we can truly sense here that some sort of reconciliation has been found and from that the melody it gives us a brilliant ending to the project, we can also truly feel that here now is a person who has really found his place in life and is now finding the support he always truly wanted. This was actually my favourite track from the album.

Red is a very powerful concept, it's a rare album that actually does address the bittersweet emotions of love and hate as they crash together on the rocks of life, simply put if you are serious about your music and are very particular of what you play, then you really need to get a cop of RED by ISADAR.