

MANNING
Margaret's Children
© 2011 Festival Music (201111)
progressive rock
studio album
7 tracks - TT 60:29
release date: November 7, 2011

REVIEW by ROCKREPORT.BE



There are so many subdivisions of progressive rock that not all of them will appeal to the visitors of this here (melodic rock) site. Personally I have a soft spot for so-called symphonic rock (classic prog rock) and neo-prog, but from time to time I'm also in the mood for more difficult variations of prog, which brings me to (Guy) Manning and his brand-new album, the eclectic "Margaret's Children".

I praised Manning's last album, "Charlestown", so you can say that I was looking forward to the new one. By now we know that Guy has interesting stories to tell and "Margaret's Children" is no exception to that rule.

The album is a sequel to "Anser's Tree" (2006) and so we're able to discover more life stories from the Scottish Anser family, of which you can find the family tree in the centre of the booklet. As always Manning wrote, arranged and produced the material besides singing and handling most of the instruments.

Once again it's not an instantly likeable album, but the more you play it the more you'll like it. Growers are almost the best albums, aren't they? (FR CL)