

Marillion on Leidsekade Live

On 22 April 1996 Marillion did an interview acoustic set that was broadcast on Dutch radio. This is a transcription of that interview plus some photographs

Note: all photographs were made by [Bart Stringa](#)! Thanks!

... Shouty audience... clapping...

Mark Stakenburg: Welcome, Steve Hogarth to Leidsekade Live. You just released a double live album called Made Again. It was recorded in Paris, London and Rotterdam. Why Rotterdam, because it's kind of a difficult hole to get a really good sound, I think.

Steve Hogarth: No, that's true, it is a bit of a shed, isn't it, the Ahoy. But there is always an amazing crowd there, it always tends to sell out. And it's nice to capture the atmosphere of the crowd because the difference between recorded studio albums and live albums is the crowd, really. The band are usually worse, you know, live. But you've got a crowd. And that's the whole point of making a live record is to try and capture the way the musicians respond to the crowd. The way that bounces back and to. And Netherlands has always been a precious market for the band.

M: You have a hard following here.

S: Yes, of course, a very passionate following. So it's the obvious country to come to for us to make a live recording.

M: Is it more difficult to perform knowing there is a tape rolling? So that it's going to be an album maybe?

S: Yeah, it is actually. Because on the one hand, you are thinking 'I better be good' and 'I better sing in tune' and 'I better be a bit careful' because it's being recorded. But on the other hand, you are trying desperately to forget that the tape is there aswell. Because you don't want it to inhibit you or constrain your performance. So in that sense it's a big mind thing, going on all the time, because you're trying to forget it but you are trying to remember it. Both at the same time... an impossible sort of thing to try and do.

M: Forget about it this afternoon, it's only radio. In the booklet that comes with the album there are parts of a diary you keep. You always keep a diary while touring?

S: Yes, I have been doing for the last few years. My dad made me promise to keep a diary. I phoned him up from Iceland a few years ago. He said, 'what are you doing?', and I said, 'I've just come down of the mountain'. I had been helicoptered on top of a glacier because we were making a video. And he said, 'you really should keep a diary because this stuff just doesn't happen to people'. So he made me promise that I start writing one. And so I have been trying to keep it going ever since. I don't usually keep it going when I'm at home because nothing interesting happens (Steve laughs) 'I put the kettle on' or 'I took Sophie to school'. Those are like personal things, but the people don't really want to hear about it.

M: I think people are also very interested in knowing what a band is doing while on tour.

S: Yes, I'm sure of that. Because I remember when I was a kid there was a band called Mock The Hoople and the lead singer, Ian Hunter, did a little paperback book called Diary Of A Rock 'n Roll Star. And it was all about one American tour what they've done, and it was everything he did from getting up in the morning to going to bed a night. I'm sure he had to miss a few things out (laughter)

but...

M: Did you?

S: Yes (laughter) ... not much And I bought that when I was 17 or whenever that was. And I read it from cover to cover. And so I think everybody want to know what it's like. Because everybody has an idea of what being in a band must be like. You know, all the fun and the sex and the drugs ...

M: and the waiting..

S: and the high living in the private jets. But it isn't really quite like that... really... all the time.

M: Not all the time. You're doing four special show in Europe this week. Tomorrow Utrecht. What can people expect?

S: ehmm.. well.. ehmm.. First of all, it's sold out so you can't expect to get a ticket. But if you have a ticket you can expect to be in a room with everybody else who already know every song backwards and inside out because the fan following we have here is very dedicated. So I don't actually need to do anything tomorrow (laughter) I could just wait until the end and then come and wave because everybody else will sing. (laughter).

M: But maybe special songs? You never did before on stage?

S: Yes. With these few days we've tried to make a show which is for the fans that have been to quite a lot of shows and that perhaps haven't heard us do songs that we haven't done for a long time. So a lot of songs that we haven't performed for a very long time and one song which we never have performed live. So we've just tried to make it special because I think everyone that is there tomorrow will have seen the Afraid Of Sunlight tour. So we didn't want to do that again. We have some old album tracks and things that we haven't done for quite a while...

M: Say no more. It's very special to have you here in Leidsekade Live. Lets have some music.

S: Right!

M: OK?

S: Yes!

M: MARILLION!!

... Shouty audience... clapping...