RUSH
Farewell to Kings... Hello to Tom Harrison

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LISTEN TO RUSH & MAX WEBSTER ON ANTHEM RECORDS

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Max Webster - Caress of Steel
ANR-1-1003

Max Webster - The Physical World
ANR-1-1004

Max Webster - North of Reality
ANR-1-1005

See Rush with special guest Max Webster live
Sept. 13, Vancouver, B.C., Vancouver Coliseum
Sept. 14, Victoria, B.C., Victoria Arena

anthem

Distributed by Polydor
Rush: Canada's most successful (least recognized) rock band

By Tom Harrison

So, have you heard the new Rush? Rush? The Toronto heavy metal band that has been around for over 20 years? The band that released albums like 2112 and Moving Pictures? The band that has sold millions of records worldwide? That’s right, Rush. And yes, you have heard the new Rush album called Moving Pictures. It’s their first album in two years and it’s a fantastic addition to their already impressive discography.

Rush are known for their complex songwriting, intricate instrumentation, and powerful live performances. They have been a driving force in the rock music scene for decades and their influence can be heard in countless bands around the world.

Moving Pictures is a musically diverse album that features a mix of hard rock, progressive rock, and even some quieter, more acoustic moments. The album opens with the powerful “Thelfw” and continues with a variety of other strong tracks like “Closer to The Heart,” “By-Tor and the Snow Dog,” and “Wilde Blue Yonder.”

The album also features some guest appearances from other musicians, including Geddy Lee from Rush. The collaboration with Geddy Lee adds another layer of depth to the album and shows the band’s willingness to experiment and push boundaries.

Overall, Moving Pictures is a fantastic addition to Rush’s discography and a must-listen for fans of rock music. It’s a reminder of why they are still so beloved after all these years and why they continue to influence and inspire new generations of musicians. So, go out and give Moving Pictures a listen. You won’t be disappointed.

Rush’s first release for Anthem through A Foot In Cold Water and Max Webster both had Ananth label releases available first. I like 2112 as the album deals in fantasy, fiction, and literary themes. Rush is a serious band that thinks in terms of epic visions. Side One consists of the title track, "The Pass." Inside, it’s so frightening. I’m not into poetry and never have been but I just happened to see that one, Ruba Khan, and I wanted to read it because of the Citizen Kane connection. It just grabbed me; it was so powerful.

The title track of the album started life as just an idea Neil and I had. It’s called "The Pass." When I heard the song for the first time, I knew it was special. It had a lot of potential and could be a big hit for the band. So, we decided to go ahead with it and make it the opening track of the album.

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tour and record the album at Rockfield Studios in Wales. The album cover art was being prepared based on a theme designed by the band's lead artist, Hugh Syme. A composite photo taken from a demolition site in Buffalo, an empty sky with Toronto's Harbourcouse Hilton in the background, and a sinewy human model retouched to look like a grotesque puppet in the foreground. Syme's image chillingly evokes the moral concerns of Rush's title track.

The album's other major endeavor is "Cygnus X-1". Ten minutes in length, the composition is only part one of an epic length fantasy of Neil's which the band wishes to continue on the next album. Cygnus X-1 does exist. It's a black hole in the constellation of Cygnus. Neil read about it in a Time Magazine and decided to research it further. As he learned more, the idea for a concept length track took shape.

In this song the singer is fascinated by what the black void could be and sets the controls of his space ship to take him close enough to investigate. Though Neil says he's not a particularly avid reader of science fiction he likes to use the idiom to get his ideas across.

"There's varying theories on Cygnus X-1," he explains. "My favourite one is that it's a crack in our dimension, our universe, our plain, and it leads to something different."

Read and see an American article dealing with the same thing but from another point of view. It's black globules forming from dust, and gas, and particles that are eventually going to become a star.

"Science fiction is just an opening to your imagination. I think that's science fiction at its best; it throws your imagination wide open. There's no limit."

Rush's recent European tour provided the group with an opportunity to try out some of their new material before they go into Rockfield to record their first album away from home. The press they've been getting and the response of English audiences was tremendously gratifying for the group as their next influences were British artists they'd been trying to emulate.

"I think if we'd gone to England a year ago or before 2161 it wouldn't have been the same," says Neil realistically. "Then we probably would have been slagged by the press because of that same fact. But now, because we've established an independent identity, they appreciate us more."

At this point in their career the only thing Neil, Geddy and Alex could want is a hit single. The group's success has been built almost totally by constant touring and a minimum of FM airplay. One song from the new lp, 'Closer To The Heart' conceivably could be the first hit.

"We're remaining philosophical about 'Closer To The Heart.' We'd all like to see it as a single and see it do well but we've had ten hit singles already that didn't go anywhere. That doesn't hurt us. We've got everything we need, really. I remember my frustration as a young musician dealing with people who said you can't do anything without a hit single yet I know all my life it wasn't true. That's the evil thing that's always brought me down even through the evil years as a struggling musician trying to get something together. I faced that kind of emasculating, that negative thinking. It dragged me down a lot.

That's why you have to be prepared to work and work hard all the time. If you're really into it, it's not so bad at all. We really enjoy it, and even though we really don't need to now and can lend off, we're still going off on a seven week tour.