



PBII
Plastic Soup
© 2010 ProgRock Records (PRR780)
progressive rock
studio album
10 tracks - TT 69:18
release date: July 13, 2010
<http://www.pb2.nl>

★★★★★☆

Tracklist

1. Book Of Changes
2. In The Arms Of A Gemini
3. Ladrillo
4. Loneliness
5. The Great Pacific Garbage Patch
6. Criticize The Critics
7. It's Your Life
8. Fata Morgana
9. Living By The Dice
10. Cradle To Cradle

Line-up

Michel van Wasse
(lv, k)
Ronald Brautigam (g,
bv)
Harry den Hartog (b,
bv)
Tom van der Meulen
(d)

Review added
July 26, 2010

PBII is the new name of the old Dutch neo-progrock band Plackband, which was founded during the seventies and was known for playing progrock in the vein of (mid-)Genesis. The name change is justified, because PBII has updated its sound into something a lot more contemporary and straightforward, without loss of their great symphonic influences from the past.

Contrary to what you might think, "Plastic Soup" is not a concept album, but its central theme is our environment. 'Plastic Soup' is another name for the Great Pacific Garbage Patch, floating in the ocean with a size of twice the USA! It was captain Charles Moore who discovered this 'plastic soup' and he did some voice-overs on this album, on which John Mitchell (Arena, It Bites, Frost*), John Jowitt (IQ, Frost*) and Heidi Jo Hines (daughter of Denny Laine from Wings) are appearing as guest musicians. To be honest, I'm surprised about the high quality of this album in all departments: the songwriting, the execution and the producing. Gone are the similarities to Genesis as they have made way for a far more contemporary sound, like we know it from bands like Frost*, Porcupine Tree and Spock's Beard. A nice surprise and an absolute must for all progfans who are aware of this environmental problem, or should I say disaster ...