”You” by Claus Dencher

The Danish singer-songwriter Claus Dencher released his new album “You” in July 2022. The 57-year-old musician has been part of the Danish music scene for quite a while, first with his band “Tankens Bager”, and when they disbanded, he went solo in 2018. With “Tankens Bager” Dencher used so sing in Danish, but he switched to English for his solo career, and “You” is his first full album in English.

Backed by the competent musicians from The Farm Sound, Claus Dencher has created an enjoyable Americana album with roots in folk rock, which it deals with the musician’s “midlife reflections” on adult life, crises, love and the future.

The album consists of eight tracks and opens with the smooth but melancholic “It Gets You”. One of my personally favourites, especially due to Claus Dencher’s pleasant voice and Peter Sund’s great guitar.

The next track is the quiet and beautiful “You” dedicated to Dencher’s granddaughter Astrid, followed by a look at childhood in “A Child’s Eye”, which is a bit of an earworm.

The last track on the A-side of the album is “Restless Fool”, a slow, melancholic but charming duet with Trine Lunau.

The B-side opens with another of my personal favourites, the folk/country rock song “My Relief”. It is the most upbeat track on the album with an efficient rhythm section consisting of Peter Dombernowsky und drums and Henrik Poulsen on bass and prominent Hammond organ by Peter Hjort. The Hammond organ plays a prominent part in the following “Loving You” as well, a calm, introspective love song,

As a contrast, the almost ominous “A piece of My Soul” follows, a very personal song about losing the happy, free spirit of childhood.

The album ends with “Formation Song”, an uplifting track with an almost pedestrian, Queen/I wanna break free-ish beat.

“You” is poetic and slow-paced album that leaves the listeners plenty of time to dwell on the music and its messages. It is, however, Claus Dencher’s calm and pleasant voice that carries the album and makes the songs stick in your mind. “You” is available digitally and as vinyl LP.

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