



Press release – Needlepoint *Aimless Mary*

Those who already know Bjørn Klakegg and his group Needlepoint are aware of the fact that they should look forward to a fresh record waiting for them in the record shop. What they don't know is that this record, titled *Aimless Mary*, is a completely shameless and loving homage to the prog rock music that the members of the group grew up with. The unmistakable, light-footed, swaying sound of Needlepoint is intact, but around steady and dancy grooves we discern the ghosts of Gentle Giants' renaissance rock and Canterbury's dreamy jazzprog bands, like Caravan and Matching Mole. Clavinets, organs, eminent guitar playing, hazy vocal harmonies and vocal phrasings transcending Robert Wyatt are leitmotifs on this record. The sound is neither nostalgic nor prostrate – on the contrary, it feels as if this journey back in time to the personal listening adventures of the members has liberated the band even more, both performance and songs overflowing with joy and warmth of heart – like a musical homecoming much longed for...

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Mats Johansen – Panorama.no



” Sometimes you are stunned, knocked over from pure astonishment. *Aimless Mary* is impeccable in all its perfection and steals your attention, whether you want it or not. Do yourself a favour – buy last year’s best record now!

Audun Vinger – Dagens Næringsliv

” Whoa! What’s the fun stuff going on in my speakers? At the end of the year comes an album that deserves to be mentioned amongst the highlights of this autumn. *Needlepoint* is a remarkably well-sounding and well-playing band. There are some melody lines and guitar figures that go right into your soul, and moods that continue the Canterbury sound. How this sounds live I don’t even dare to imagine.

Johnny Andreassen – Drammen Tidende



” Some record releases hit you hard, and you know after a few hectic encounters that this is a life-long relationship. If you really love music, the artistic, progressive and electrifying musical landscape where you can spend weeks discovering new elements, this is a production sent from above.

Jacob Holm-Lupo – Permafrost Today

” This project is pure magic. *Klakegg* and co have gone back to their childhood and wiped dust from old *Gentle Giant*, *Caravan* and *ELP* records, serving us a mix of prog and melodious jazz that feels neither retrospective nor excessive. Pure pleasure of listening, and a meeting of musical masters.
(No 3 of top 10 international albums of 2015).

Jan-Erik Zandersson – <http://stigsson.blogspot.se>

” Powerful, a remarkable ending of the musical year of 2015. To my ears, this is a record you really must buy. The answer to the question of who should be the Norwegian guests at the ‘*Slottsskogen goes progressive*’ festival now seems obvious.

Lars Mossefinn – Dag og Tid

” *Needlepoint* taken. Delightfully untrendy, typical *Klakegg*. Really raw music.

Tor Hammerø – <http://torhammero.blogg.no/>

” [...] a very bold band. To my ears, *Aimless Mary* is a brilliant rock music recording where *Klakegg*, both as a guitar player and a vocalist, shows us that he is a story teller worth sharing plenty of time with.

Anne Lill W. Aas – Telemarksavisa



” This has become a melodious pleasure.

Big Dipper (record store)

” Many of our customers got a mind-blowing musical experience when *Needlepoint*’s latest release *Aimless Mary* was played on the stereo throughout the month of December. This record is just insane, and there are still words of praise after their release concert at *Café Mono*.

Geir Larzen – Norway Rock Magazine

” They’ve hit the bull’s eye [...] representing the very best of Norwegian music based on multiple decades of history.