

Julian Sas



MILES AND MEMORIES

Julian Sas: Miles And Memories

Cavalier

After thirty years of performing and recording, Dutch guitarist and vocalist Julian Sas returns to a classic blues rock trio for ***Miles And Memories***, his most recent studio album following the departure of regular keyboard player Roland Bakker. Sas, accompanied by long time collaborators Lars-Erik van Elzakker on drums and Edwin van Huik on bass, rises to the challenge and ups the tempo from previous album ***Electroacoustic***.

The super tight rhythm section provides the firmest of foundations for Sas to let loose with driving guitar riffs and solos over eight tracks of authentic and flowing virtuoso blues rock. There may be nothing earth-shattering or pioneering here, but the album is packed with a variety of phrasing, tempo and mood. There's little duplication here. The title track sees our singer reflecting over his long career, before addressing troubles with 'Midst Of Madness', a diatribe on modern political leaders. 'One Step Closer To Hell' tells a good story and there's a lovely bit of acoustic work on 'Hiding Place'. 'Getting Tougher Every Day' has a pleasing urgency and by the time 'Ain't Coming Back' closes matters in a real show of the guitarist's strengths, it's clear that this direction is exactly where Sas wants to be right now. Good job too as this album is convincing and deeply satisfying.

Liz Medhurst