

Band links -
www.martywillsonpiper.net
www.viplounge.org.uk

Noctorum - Offer The Light

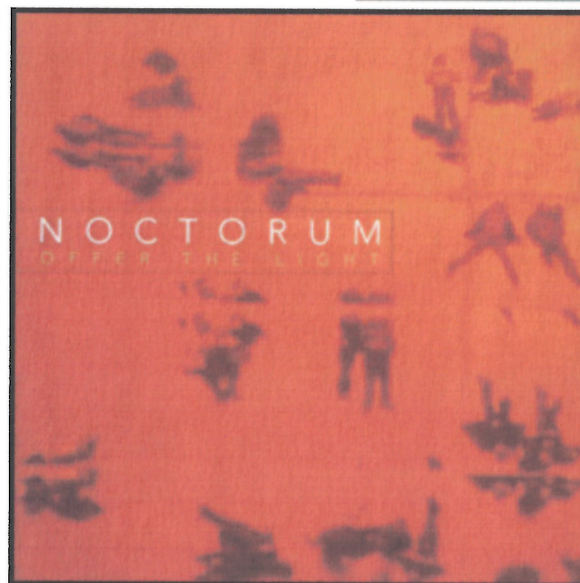
Label link -
www.heyday.com

+ Churchmerch via
www.thechurchband.com

Heyday Music - Hey 080.2 (USA)

The debut Noctorum album had contained a wide range of material including classic pop 'High As A Kite' and gentle acoustic opener 'Hey There' alongside more unorthodox tracks but all cohesive being consistently well produced and arranged with imagination particularly in the layering and choice of instruments.

The much anticipated follow up is a little less variable whilst retaining the great production and intelligent arranging. Marty and Dare share instruments and are joined on some of the tracks by a wide range of guest musicians with an imaginative array of instruments bringing added texture. Opener 'Alain Delon' is particularly heavily supplemented and glides along with class - in contrast some tracks feature just Marty and Dare or accompanied by drummer Mark Wilkin. The instantaneous 'Stop Cryin' Your Eyes Out' (a double sided 7" with 'High As A Kite' in a warm sounding jukebox on a Summers day would be bliss...) is another example of them playing straight direct pop to great effect whilst closing track 'Hopes And Fears' tops all that came before it with a classic vocal melody and shifting dynamics - from charming acoustic to full band intensity with soaring soloing. Dare's vocal track 'The Guessing Game' is another highlight with its relaxed feel and infectious chorus.



Alain Delon
 Let Me Tell You A Secret
 Lover's Head
 The Guessing Game
 Stop Cryin' Your Eyes Out
 The Muse
 The Striker
 Surrounded
 Already Dead
 Hopes And Fears



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"A consistancy between the two albums is the imaginative arrangements and great production"