

Art Block – Brother

Many bands and singers nowadays, maybe, use far too many instruments than a song merits or go for production overkill. How refreshing to hear a trio of voice, piano, and violin play and sing clearly.

Art Block have composed a haunting melody with a beautiful violin counter melody, beautifully played by Maria Kroon.

The setting for video, St John's Church, Hackney, adds to the song's atmosphere, and perhaps the perfect setting for the song's message about childhood. Maria Kroon's beautiful legato/cantabile (smooth and in a singing style) violin playing is perfect for the song – the piano playing simple quaver chords over a smooth left hand bass-line with lovely use of the sustain pedal. This style of piano playing has been brought to fore by Ludovico Einaudi's compositions. How nice to hear the lovely melodies and thoughtful lyrics brought to the fore in this style of composition.

It all adds to a very moving, heartfelt song :

'You were meant to be my life'

is plaintively sang, movingly sang.

It is well recorded, it is well played, it deserves a broader audience.

Drew Jarvie, The Delerium Trees

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