

The Jobs – Transmission Radio

Transmission Radio, by the American band The Jobs, is a wonderful collage of musical styles which starts with its Beach Boy themed beginning accompanied by simple piano chords, a lovely introduction.

A bouncy drum and bass rhythm which is joined by strummed chords on guitar leads to the first verse. This continues as the vocals enter, wonderfully clear every word understood. In a nod to the Sex Pistols, who used this style, a guitar enters playing the same notes as the bassist except an octave higher.

‘We are counting on you’ is the pre chorus harmony line and we count on The Jobs to give us a brilliant chorus. This duly delivered with lovely dual vocal in style that, to me, The Beautiful South or Mercury Rev would have been delighted to use. A tambourine is added to the percussion, driving the chorus forwards, an idea of a nervous optimism – a reflection of present-day concerns? Probably, but like the song suggests the world will slowly emerge from the recent gloom. Speaking of percussion, there is clever use of a type of cowbell and open hi hat.

As the vocals end there is a hint of grunge that leads to the songs end on acoustic guitar along with the Beach Boy style harmonies.

Transmission Radio feels like a song of hope, a song that can be sung a long to, therefore a song about a nervous but hopeful future as the lyrics suggest:

‘A consciousness from night’s duress
Yearning for the sun’s caress’

I loved this song, meaningful lyrics well sung on top of driving rhythm section that pushes the song on but doesn’t overwhelm the vocalist.

A thoughtful well-constructed song.

Drew Jarvie / The Delerium Trees 24/02/2021

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