

JJ Lovegrove – I'm Fine

Reviewer – Drew Jarvie AMJ Music (The Delerium Trees)

JJ Lovegrove certainly knows how to paint a picture with the haunting textures in her voice in the song 'I'm Fine'. Despite all the gloom she insists that she is indeed 'fine'.

A dark synth with electric piano introduces the song with the haunting lyric and vocal of JJ entering soon afterwards.

Harmonies in the vocal line highlight the melody to great effect.

The second verse is slightly more rhythmic with a percussive drive, also dissonances from solitary guitar notes add to tension in the accompaniment before dropping back down for the chorus to come back in. Some beautiful vocalization (melisma) on 'I'm Fine' shows a beauty and ghostly quality in JJ's vocal.

'Needles scratch my skin'

At last, a little glimpse of light in the accompaniment as the song becomes more anthemic, slightly more hopeful however danger is near and real :

'There is always monsters'

I think that JJ is describing the breakdown of society as well as the breakdown of the individual. Murder, drugs and depression are all here but somehow, we must all soldier on.

The anthemic middle section re-enters leading to the opening strain to close the song. A cyclic song reflecting a cyclic society perhaps.

A wonderful haunting song with JJ's vocal line painting an atmosphere, shrouded in pain of life. It is imagery that cannot easily be forgotten just like JJ Lovegrove.

We will hear more of these paintings in music in the 'Things Only The Dark Knows' EP. I for one cannot wait to hear it!