

## **Symphony Of Broken Hearts – Wild Horse**

**Reviewed by A Band Called Paul**

**Brecon Indie Reviewer Team**

Wild Horse are a constant surprise, in a great way.

While their last two releases "Record Collection" and "Freaky Together" have each expressed their very different genres through instrumentation and texture, on their new release, "Symphony Of Broken Hearts," the instrumentation takes a minimalist back-seat approach in what is essentially a tour de force for the band's lead singer, Jack Baldwin.

The track opens with a simple four-to-the-floor kick drum to set its steady, walking tempo before being joined by sustained piano chords struck on the downbeat of every second bar.

Arriving just before the piano entry is Jack's main vocal, delivered with a raw-throated high tenor that perfectly suits the story of relationship heartbreak that follows.

My first reaction was that it was somewhat Chris Isaak-like in its delivery with faint 1950's tones, but on second listen it seems to fall closer to those wonderfully sad 50's-infused deliveries of Glasvegas, ' "Flowers and Football Tops," from their eponymous debut.

Bass guitar enters to further drive the minimalist pulse, hugging the kick drum and fleshed-out drum kit as they both chug onwards with the piano travelling further up its right-hand register to further the air and space left in the track.

That air becomes filled on the song's lovely plaintive chorus, with multi-layered harmony vocals filling the space as Jack swoops between his raw-throated tone and falsetto to underscore the loneliness of his situation.

The passion is evident in the vocal. It's an excellent performance and the drama of the narrative is superbly conveyed through its various inflections, ebbing and flowing as he sings of his experience.

This is top-notch stuff from Wild Horse and can only serve to further their credentials as one of the most consistently engaging and entertaining bands emerging in the UK.