

The Midnight – Heroes album review

The Midnight continue to embark on their musical journey, after two years, releasing their latest offering 'Heroes,' a mixture of feel-good tunes and heartfelt arena ballads. Heroes fits into their discography flawlessly, like a missing piece of a puzzle, adding on to the story of their previous releases, 'Kids' and 'Monsters.' Tyler Lyle and Tim McEwan, the talented duo behind The Midnight, seemed to have taken this album as an opportunity to pour all their finest assets into a collective piece of art, with McEwan's narrative lyric writing and Lyle's smooth vocals, telling us his story.

Echoed synths and lavishing vocals serenading us is where the album begins, starting up with 'Golden Gate,' immediately giving that signature sound The Midnight brings to every piece of work they release. Throughout their music career, the duo has played around with their sound, not allowing themselves to stick to one singular genre, which is shown in one of their lead singles from the album, 'Brooklyn. Friday. Love.' 'Brooklyn. Friday. Love' takes a step away from their established synth sound and replaces it with loud handclaps, catchy guitar riffs and cheerful vocals, but they never stray too far from their original formula, making time for a silky-smooth sax solo.

There are elements of that huge arena sound from the 80's scattered all throughout this album. 'Heartbeat' offers this sound in its entirety, with what sounds to be influences from Van Halen with jumpy synths all throughout. 'Heartbeat' doesn't only give us timeless sounds and a cheeky key change but provides us with cheesy lyrics that are so typically 80's, but so enjoyable to sing at the top of your lungs. 'Heroes' and 'Loved by you' also encapsulate these emotions throughout its lyrics, but really stand out for their intriguing synth solo and hardcore electric drums, building the energy higher.

While most of the album is upbeat, there is a tender side to it, giving us some heart wrenching ballads like 'A place of her own,' projecting a story about a girl who seems to have lost herself, trying to find where she truly belongs, displaying the pain she feels throughout the song, 'He left a hole the size of the world and she aint' never had nothing,' resonating deeply with others. 'Heart worth breaking,' once again screams 80's, with Lyle's velvet voice and polished guitar.

The album doesn't stay too slow for too long, it soon returns to its speed with 'Change your heart or die,' with a darker feel to it. It is full of trancing synths, heavy drums and metal riffs, something you would not have thought would fit into their music, but it absolutely does, leading into 'Avalanche' a song that feels so refreshing, it wants to let all your past go, with big harmonies adding to the pure emotion poured into this song.

Bringing the album to a close is 'Energy never dies, it just transforms,' an emotional ending told through nothing but instrumentals, an almost nostalgic sound looking back on everything you have just listened to.