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BADFINGER: "Wish You Were Here"

Pieter Franssen

Over a half year after their first album on the Warner Brothers label was released, Badfinger surprised friend and foe with a new album. Recorded under the supervision of Chris Thomas (producer of Roxy Music) in the Caribou-American and English AIR Studios, just two numbers in support of the horn section of the excellent Average White Band, it has become a qualitive freely thin album. The big problem is that there is relatively little variation in the various tracks. There is a salient issue is missing. In this, more or less salt free music, the songs of guitarist Joey Molland appeal to me the most. The ballad "Gotta Get Out Of Here" for example, a number that brings a smile to your lips. A nice lingering organ gives appropriate accompaniment to this number. But precisely this indicates an unexpected charm. Vocally all are very good together. These four boys of Badfinger are all worth a good listen. Also on the implementation of the compositions there is not much to criticize. No, the weak point, the compositions themselves. Four tracks of guitar-player and keyboard-player Pete Ham is really too much and the two contributions of drummer Mike Gibbins are too weak. The lovely Beatles-like close harmony makes a lot of numbers in some way good, I mentioned in March about the previous album I cannot repeat here. A nice pastime is to find out how many different brands of cigarettes and drink advertising on the cover is made. As far as I am concerned, Badfinger had better try another direction. One direction in which the lost identity comes back to the top. More than one record a year is okay, as long as the quality is good, and I have nothing against it. This record is not in any of these aspects.