ART ROCK . PL

I must admit that at the beginning my attention was drawn primarily to the cover, reminiscent of the one from the recently reviewed disc of Italian progmetalers from Kingcrow, and having something in the background from some Threshold covers (Hypothetical, For The Journey). Immediately my thoughts ran toward progressive metal and ... what a surprise I was when I heard the opening album of Arrive. A charming ballad with wonderful harmonies, transporting me forty years back and smelling The Beatles. The song "bought me" so much that I started listening to the album with great interest. And although subsequent songs were not so endearing, Chasing Light turned out to be an extremely successful album, which can be reached by a fan of warm, melodic and well-arranged progressive music.

This is the debut of the Built For The Future project from San Antonio, Texas. It all started back in the eighties with a meeting of Patric Farrell (the real B4tF leader responsible for guitars, bass, keyboards, drums, programming and additional vocals) with vocalist Kenny Bissett. The gentlemen played then in other local bands, they stayed in touch for years, but it wasn't until 2013 that Farrell offered Bissett to sing in one of the composed songs. Between the musicians it "subscribed" so much that after 25 years of friendship, they finally began to create music together. The effect of this is this album and the name of the project that was born in the past, but ... was built for the future.

The disc is simply nice, but absolutely not revealing. Because there is a lot of inspiration and copies in it. Very classic anyway. Let's start with the fact that it is music that we can easily put in a "progressive rock" drawer. I read somewhere in promotional materials that it was the resultant Rush (from the middle period), Yes (from the time of Trevor Rabin), late Genesis and ... Tears For Fears. There is something to it, although I would add evident references to The Moody Blues, so audible in their company (because present in all compositions) harmonious vocals. There is a lot of nostalgia and noble melody in them. An example of this is the mentioned Arrive or Lightchaser. And as for Tears For Fears - listen to Built For The Future, i.e. the title composition, actually transferring to the beautiful eighties. In turn the second part of Samsara, which sounds very symphonic, is a fragment as if taken from one of the works of Yes. The most interesting issue, however, seems to be the ending whole, the most extensive and multi-threaded, The Great Escape, lasting almost 13 minutes.

The downside of the disc is its length, the material lasts almost 80 minutes at times. In any case, I would make a very nice 45-minute vinyl from it. On the other hand, the richness of the means of expression used (acoustic guitar, mellotron, Hammonds, Moog, violin, viola, cello) gives the album a classic taste and somewhat compensates for this lengthiness.