Yes - Drama (1980)



Side 1. 01 - Machine Messiah. 02 - White Car. 03 - Does It Really Happen. Side 2. 01 - Into The Lens. 02 - Run Through The Light. 03 - Tempus Fugit.

Trevor Horn – lead vocals, fretless bass Steve Howe – guitars, backing vocals Chris Squire – bass, backing vocals Geoff Downes – keyboards, vocoder, backing vocals Alan White – drums, percussion, backing vocals Jon Anderson - lead vocals on the Paris sessions Rick Wakeman - keyboards on the Paris sessions

For this one album, ex-Buggles Geoffrey Downes and Trevor Horn were drafted in to replace Jon Anderson and Rick Wakeman. It rocks harder than other Yes albums, and for classically inclined fans, it was a jarring departure; but it was a harbinger of Yes and Asia albums to come. A newly emboldened Chris Squire lays down aggressive rhythms with Alan White, and Steve Howe eschews his usual acoustic rags and flamenco licks for a more metallic approach, opting for sheets of electric sound. Prime cuts include the doom-laden "Machine Messiah" and the manic ska inflections of "Tempus Fugit." Despite the promise of this new material, the band soon fell apart; Horn went into production, Howe and Downes joined Asia, and Squire and White toyed and then gave up on a pair-up with Robert Plant and Jimmy Page, which was to be titled XYZ (i.e., Ex-Yes and Zeppelin). ---Paul Collins, allmusic.com

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