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In The Studio With

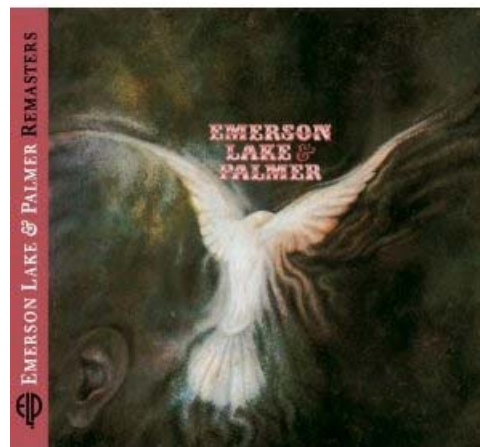
Emerson, Lake, and Palmer



(photo copyright Jorgen Angel) In Summer 1971

there was a college bar not far from the local campus on the main street of Findlay, Ohio where the “townies” congregated, just a safe haven for the newly-legal-age hippies to get a cold beer without fear of being hassled by rednecks. There was no room or money for live music, just a jukebox. Up until then every jukebox I had encountered was stocked with the Top 40 hits of the day, but this one was special. Someone had loaded up this baby with cutting-edge progressive rock that we couldn’t find on the radio dial, such as **Crosby Stills Nash & Young’s “Ohio”** backed with **“Find the Cost of Freedom”** barely a year after the shocking killing of four fellow students at nearby Kent State University. But when somebody slipped a quarter in and punched up a new band called **Emerson, Lake, & Palmer** and their **“Knife Edge”** and **“Lucky Man”**, that ‘box would rock!

I borrowed the debut album from a buddy, and was fascinated by the epic **“Take a Pebble”**, featuring **Greg Lake’s** choirboy voice, **Carl Palmer’s** fantastic drum technique, and **Keith Emerson’s** impressive ability on a variety of keyboards including the new electronic invention, the Moog synthesizer. ELP were not so much about breaking the unspoken rules of rock’n’roll as they were about expanding the boundaries of it. Listening now almost 40 years later to the title song to the **Trilogy** album, with Lake’s voice delicately yet nimbly bounding along to Emerson’s piano runs, it’s clear that Emerson Lake & Palmer



Stream Interview

Week of Jan 24, 2011

Emerson, Lake, and Palmer

Emerson, Lake, and Palmer

w/Keith Emerson, Greg Lake, Carl Palmer

Online now

were much less “Be Bop a Lula” in their melodic grandeur and much more “**Andrew Lloyd Weber**” .

-Redbeard



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