

come over my love everybody's worried

in november 2006 the band 'sdruzeni rodicu a pratel ropy' released their second studio album called 'zari' (which translates both as 'september' or 'shining'). three years after their first album 'je mi nadherne', ('i feel wonderful'), the legendary heroes of empty halls seem to feel quite okay. as opposed to their late harvest debut in a black digipack, the new cd is ephemerally pale on the outside, yet so much darker and compact inside. the straightforward post-punk songs have vanished, leaving space for atmospherical soundscapes, intricate compositions and arrangements. what remains is the multi-genre eclectic music, idiosyncratic performance and distinctive lyrics. music-wise, the band builds on songs like mantra, sen (dream) or vecirek (party) from the previous cd, but goes a step further in combining contemporary sound with the 80's keyboard alternative and guitars straddled between jim o'rourke and pixies. while in the past, running over a cleaning woman was an opportunity for a wild dance, today we rather sway with our friends from therapy (kamaradi), we try to avoid the dance macabre with our lover (mila), we contemplate by the sea, the dead sea of course, (more), and we are aware that there is not much hope for a happy ending concerning ester (from the eponymous song). it is not necessary to understand all the literary context and allusions of the lyrics in order to enjoy the songs, though sometimes it is almost impossible to avoid them, such as in the ginsbergian track (chrleni), or the post-modern reinterpretation of the last supper story (vecere), but according to tintoretto rather than da vinci.

on the shore stand i

of the dead sea

'zari' contains 10 tracks with the total time of 54 minutes. lyrics are by roman neruda, music and arrangements by the whole band, (the strings arranged by leo hanus). srpr is now roman neruda (voc), pavel tic (keyb), arnost stedry and lexa hudecek (gui), jan klempir (bass), hynek just (drums), lukas georgiev and leo hanus (sax). during the recording, two members of the prague band otk supported the band, namely jarda mugrauer (drums) and ondrej jezek (samples, sounds, opinions), who has also taken care of sound, mixing and production in his 'jamor' studio in prague.

he slammed the door, said farewell charlie,

which is strange, your name is jan

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