

Today I'll be reviewing 'Master of Reality' by Black Sabbath! I think Eddie Van Halen said album track 'Into the Void' had his favourite Sabbath riff. Yes, mine too! Then I got the guitar tab from the internet and I found the first six notes simply go up the blues scale. Does that make the first part of the riff dumb? ... .. No! The first part of the very old (and therefore sophisticated) Christmas carol 'Joy to the World' simply goes down the whole major scale! It doesn't get much simpler than that. And of course the intro riff of 'Master of Puppets' just goes down the whole chromatic scale. What have we learnt? Not a lot, it's just a cool fact, that's all. What's even more interesting than that, is surf rock song 'Misirlou' goes up and down the double harmonic major scale, (!!!) and if you haven't heard of that scale, either you don't care which is fair enough, OR it's because you don't want to know the scale as usually it sounds absolutely awful almost all of the time. If you have a piano in front of you and you know how to play the notes, play the following: E, F, G#, A, B, C, D#, E over and over. Unless you come from the Middle East and have hardened (weird) eardrums, it will only be a few minutes before you'll smash your piano up or even worse, someone else's. So, a sincere applause goes to 'Misirlou' for not contributing to something like that.

Ok, 'Master of Puppets' goes down the scale, a song on 'Master of Reality' goes up the scale. Is there a connection there? Here's a thought: How do you master a scale? You play it up and down over and over again, don't you? THERE'S the connection, I got there in the end. And of course, it is joy when you play a whole scale, because again when you do that, you master it and mastering anything gives you joy. But joy to the world? Yes. Because I like to think if I mastered anything, the whole world would side with me and throw me a huge party as they drop their commitments, ASAP. And for that, I say 'thank you.' Joe Satriani is the kind of person who can make any demented scale sound really cool and mysterious, so let's clap for him too. Clearly if I were to rule the world everyone would be really happy and pleased. Maybe even a little smug. But there would be no hate, so please elect me for Prime Minister. I also have an interesting idea where everyone can make speed limits wherever they like! I will also be banning Latin, so album 'Epicus Doomicus Metallus' by Candlemass won't be allowed either. Oh yeah, as explained a while ago that's not real Latin, although it does sound plausible. Worth warning people about on multiple occasions for that reason alone. I'm sorry, if you haven't read my OSD short stories, you may have assumed I'm suffering with dementia. Don't worry, I'm fine for now. Although it is a fear for the future, as I can see myself forgetting everything, blaming everyone else and getting angry.

Now to move onto the album cover art. It basically just features the band name and album name in a funny font. It seems the band haven't mastered the skill of handwriting, it's a bit all over the place. If that's a problem for a so called master, maybe use a ruler? You could argue the writing looks that way on purpose, but would the master of everything want to come across as wacky and fun? Probably not, I'd expect him to be extremely sensible. The kind of person to use a ruler. The band could also do with mastering things on a deeper level. Yes, the album cover backing is black and that works obviously, but why is the band name in purple? Personally I think it should be black logo saying 'BLACK Sabbath', purple backing. A purple backing if they really MUST use the colour that is, when I think of purple, I think of people chilling out at a smooth jazz concert, sipping martinis. When I listen to BS on the other hand, I picture the devil which isn't surprising as they sing about him. And

the album name in grey? Grey is boring colour, what's boring about such a name? If I was the master of reality, I'd be really excited. Yellow is the colour of cheerfulness, so THAT'S what colour they should have used. Ah, the album cover I found online has some grey writing, my album writing on the other hand is all in purple. Well done them for seeing reason at least in a way. Unless they were right first and then made a mistake, I have no idea. Anyway, 9.25/10 bye!