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Subject: Re: Yes - The Royal Affair

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Tue, 13 Aug 2019 17:19:25 GMT

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What a wonderful experience. I could see that in Geoff Downes. He doesn't come across as an arrogant person. You can almost pick up a sense of some musicians - Maybe their personalities come across a little bit. You can definitely spot the alphas in a group.

I must admit that I was pretty impressed with Geoff Downes at this concert.

As I said earlier, I watched him perform onstage in the Drama tour, which was right after the Buggles / Yes infusion. It was hard to watch after having seen Wakeman play with Yes. Downes played with one finger, if he played at all. Of course, this kept him humble. You could see it in his stage persona. He played with his back to the audience most of the time, seemingly almost ashamed. But man, he had some big shoes to fill, so I sort of can understand that in hindsight.

And Geoff Downes has grown immensely as a keyboard player. At the Royal Affair concert, he did all the music from Yes that's really complicated, and he didn't simplify the note progressions at all. He played every note of every song and he did so perfectly.

And he still seemed as modest as he was when he first joined the band.

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