



Disc 1. 63.56

1. **Intro Stu Kimball**
(based on "Nelly Was A Lady") 1.18
2. **Things Have Changed** 4.49
3. **It Ain't Me, Babe** 3.59
4. **Highway 61 Revisited** 3.58
5. **Simple Twist Of Fate** 5.00
6. **Duquesne Whistle** 6.30
7. **When I Paint My Masterpiece** 5.31
8. **Honest With Me** 3.58
9. **Tryin' To Get To Heaven** 4.32
10. **Make You Feel My Love** 4.17
11. **Pay In Blood** 4.11
12. **Tangled Up In Blue** 5.36
13. **Early Roman Kings** 5.05



The painting on the envelope cover front is made by Bob Dylan, graphic print "Endless Highway".

Disc 2. 77.57

1. **Desolation Row** 7.32
2. **Love Sick** 5.17
3. **Don't Think Twice, It's All Right** 5.52
4. **Thunder On The Mountain** 5.46
5. **Soon After Midnight** 3.42
6. **Gotta Serve Somebody** 4.45
7. **Blowin' In The Wind** 5.43
8. **Ballad Of A Thin Man** 5.48
9. **Visions Of Johanna** 8.07
10. **Summer Days** 6.05
11. **Like A Rolling Stone** 5.23
12. **It Takes A Lot To Laugh, It Takes A Train To Cry** 4.19

Bonus Tracks Disc 2.

9. **19 Aug. 2018, Enmore Theatre, Sydney, Australia**
10. **26 Aug. 2018, Spark Arena, Auckland, New Zealand**
- 11.-12. **28 Aug. 2018, Horncastle Arena, Christchurch, New Zealand**

BOB DYLAN – THE JOURNEY TO NEWCASTLE

Bob Dylan's touring schedule in 2018 saw him play 84 concerts across four continents. In Europe, Asia, Australasia and then the United States, old fans and new were won over by Dylan's resurgent vocals and focused live performances. Anyone thinking that Bob may have been over the hill would no doubt have re-assessed any such opinions after seeing him this year.

Bob has of course been over many hills throughout his long career. Sometimes standing atop the tallest mountain, casting a shadow over all of his contemporaries and wannabees. Sometimes trudging through the valleys, unable to give it away. Bob's journey is unparalleled and consistently confounding. As he once sang, "You'll find out when you reach the top, you're on the bottom." With each step, he's been written off and idolized. Dining with princes then shown to the door. But always pressing on.

Dylan passed two significant milestones between the end of his European tour in late April 2018 and then the start of his brief Asian / Australasian tour three months later. Firstly, the man turned 77, and secondly, he chalked up 30 years since the start of his so-called 'Never Ending Tour'. While Dylan has dismissed this title, for fans, his continual life on the road over the past past three decades

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BOB DYLAN
And
His Band

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has become an entrenched part of our lives.

So, onward in his journey, where is Bob in 2018? Well, August found him in Australia playing nine concerts before a crossing of the Tasman for two more shows in New Zealand. It had been four years since his previous visit to those parts and in the mean time he had issued three separate installments of his takes

on American standards. In tipping his hat to Frank, Bob 'uncovered' 52 songs from that era. Again, who could have picked that this would have been Dylan's next hill to explore?

From late 2014 onwards (after his last Antipodean trip), the stand-out feature of Bob's concerts for many fans had been his interpretations of these 'Sinatra' tunes. Standing centre-stage in near darkness, his singing reached new levels of conviction as he reached back into another age of song. At first, there was just one of these songs per show, 'Autumn Leaves', but with time, Bob included up to six Sinatra tunes in his shows. Through his European tour in March and April 2018, Bob was singing three

of these standards per show and any fan inclined to predict Bob's set lists would have confidently expected this material to continue being played in Australia.

Instead, Bob dropped playing these songs during the Asian shows before the Australia tour. In their place he added 'When I Paint My Masterpiece' and 'Gotta Serve Somebody', each of which had last been performed in 2011, and each of which would

be among the stand out tracks at each of the Australian concerts. Interestingly, looking back 30 years and to the set list of Bob's show in Concord, California on June 7, 1988 – the first night of the 'NET' – the only song that

would be repeated from that in Australia 2018 was 'Gotta Serve Somebody'. And in keeping with Bob's history of rewriting and updating the lyrics of this song, each Australian performance of it featured new and differing lyrics. 'When I Paint My Masterpiece' also included some new lines, though its rewrite was much more subtle than Serve Somebody redux 2018.

Each of the eleven Antipodean shows in 2018 were of a high standard, exceeding the expectations of

local fans. To pick just one night to sum up the tour is a tough call but a prime example of where Dylan was at during August 2018 can be heard in this fine recording from Newcastle, Australia on August 22. As a bonus, some extra tracks from Sydney and New Zealand are also included in order to capture each of the four different songs played during this run.

Joey Johns

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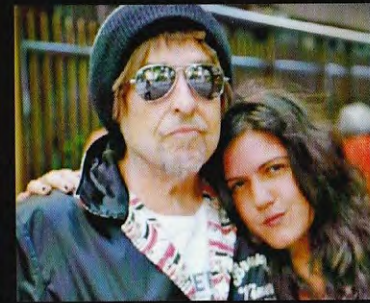


Knockin' on Heaven's Door

Man take the badge off of me - i can't see it anymore - it's getting dark too
Dark to see and i feel like i'm knockin' on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin'
on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin' on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin'
on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin' on Heaven's door

Man put my gun in the ground - i can't shoot them anymore - that long black cloud
is coming down and i feel like i'm knockin' on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin'
on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin' on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin'
on Heaven's door - knock knock knockin' on Heaven's door

Bob Dylan





BOB DYLAN AND HIS BAND

Bob Dylan - *vocal, piano, harmonica*

Tony Garnier - *bass*

George Recile - *drums*

Charlie Sexton - *electric guitar*

Stu Kimball - *acoustic guitar, electric guitar*

Donnie Herron - *pedal steel, lap steel, violin*

BOB ON BOB

Bob Dylan in Newcastle, August 2018

By the time we were seated, the centre was a packed house, the show started at 8pm exactly.

The lights came up on Dylan standing legs apart at his piano. He often takes on the stance of a boxer, and he was smiling.

(Dylan wrote in Chronicles: 'Lou introduced me to Jack Dempsey, the great boxer. Jack shook his fist at me, 'You look to light for a heavyweight kid, you'll have to put on a few pounds. You'll gonna have to dress a little finer, look a little sharper – not that you'll need much in the way of clothes when you're in the ring – don't be afraid of hitting somebody too hard')

Well, it seems Bob took all that advice seriously.

Dylan launched into 'Things Have Changed' quick with irony; Bob's piano leading the guitars into a yet another unfolding previously unheard arrangement, fluid and seemingly spontaneous. Maybe not so much irony as I first thought. These days the lyrics make more sense than when the song was featured in the movie Wonder Boys. Think of current headlines and Dylan's line, 'The next sixty seconds could feel like an eternity' - it brings to mind Ezra Pound's dictum, 'Poetry is news that stays news'.

We were connected now, plugged

into Dylan's electric freedom and his voice rode with a rough edge over the tight music. 'Concert' was not quite the word for this performance, as words cracked in the air, I was aware I liked it more than any 'singing' I have heard before. When Dylan sang 'Pay in Blood' (But not My Own) his voice sounded ancient, harsh and merciless,

The musicians rocked as Bob spat out iron lyrics: "This is how I spend my days / I came to bury not to praise".

I listened as my projection of time dissolved, memory and its million golden



birds sang through years I may or may have not lived: this could be where Dylan met those Early Roman Kings. A limbo stretching throughout history, "Another politician pumping out his piss / another angry beggar blowing you a kiss" - Dylan's humour can be agile, blunt or acidic, "Gonna put you on trial in a Sicilian court".

Back to the river again. "Wading through the muddy water, I've been walking through the middle of nowhere." Such a great set list of songs: 'It Ain't Me Babe' so final, so bleak yet hopeful, that's it and think about love.

Some of my favourites were 'Love Sick', with existential echoes not bouncing back, and a Boogie Woogie arrangement of 'Gotta Serve Somebody', lightened up and more ambiguous than on record. 'Desolation Row' was airy and almost lovely, Dylan sang it in a haunted melody, his dark humour licked and twitched playfully around phrases in each verse.

Then the most unexpected song of the night, 'When I Paint My Masterpiece', emotionally charged and I loved some of the new lyrics. At this stage I was reminding myself we were in Newcastle. Other highlights were 'Duquesne Whistle', 'Honest With Me', 'Tryin' To Get the Heaven', 'Tangled Up in Blue' – a dreamy version – tilted with pain and rueful. 'Don't Think Twice It's All Right', clean and perfect with the band holding back.

I think Dylan's last five albums of original songs are some of his best; like the great poet W.B. Yeats the work improves as he gets older. It was a brilliant set list, best of all the seven concerts I've seen, from the 1st April 1978 to last night.

Dylan's triple sided sense of humour threaded the songs together and also when he needed to, he poured forth his furies, so many aspects. When he sang 'Ballad of a Thin Man' it sounded as if he still meant every word of it. I have to end with my favourite performance, 'Soon After Midnight', where Bob sings "It's soon after midnight and I've got a date with the fairy queen".

It took me back to Edmund Spenser's epic The Faerie Queene (1590) and here I'll end by quoting the first verse of Dylan's song back to him:

I'm searching for phrases
To sing your praises
I need to tell someone
It's soon after midnight
And my day has just begun.

Robert Adamson

[Robert Adamson is an internationally recognised poet and one of Australia's most respected and awarded writers. Adamson was the inaugural CAL Chair of Poetry at the University of Technology. The full version of his piece was originally published on the website www.crikey.com.au

ALSO WORTH NOTING...

Stu Kimball's guitar piece that opened the Newcastle concert appears to be based on the song, 'Nelly Was A Lady', which was composed by Stephen Foster in 1849. Kimball performed this intro at each of the shows on this tour but his journey in Bob's band would soon come to a close. After joining Dylan part-way through 2004, Stu Kimball went on to play over 1,300 concerts with Bob. His last appears to have been in Christchurch, New Zealand. When the next tour leg commenced in Arizona in early October, there was just a shadow in the place where Stu had previously occupied on stage.

Before 'Early Roman Kings', two fans can be heard in the distance yelling for 'Every Grain Of Sand'. They made this request throughout the Australian tour and at the Enmore Theatre in Sydney, Bob laughed happily in response to their ambitious call.

The Australian performances of 'Early Roman Kings' included some fan interactions. When Bob sang the line "Wave your handkerchief in the air" one tour follower down the front would respond by doing just that. When Bob then sang "I ain't dead yet, my bell still rings" another attendee would enthusiastically ring a bell above their head.

'Don't Think Twice, It's All Right' under-



Stu Kimball

went a significant transformation for the Australia and New Zealand shows. Bob slowed in down and stripped it back, reinventing this classic into a hushed piano ballad. Such tenderness opens a whole new world of possibilities for how Bob may choose to tackle songs in the future.

The bonus tracks

'Visions Of Johanna' was a one-off performance at Sydney's Enmore Theatre on August 19, 2018. This show was added just a few weeks prior after the first night in Sydney sold out. The Enmore was the smallest venue that Bob played during this tour and the

only show in Australia to include a general admission crowd area in front of the stage. This set-up resulted in a more intense atmosphere at this concert, with the fans more animated in their reaction to Bob than the seated crowds elsewhere. Instead of playing 'Desolation Row' that night he opted for Visions – its first performance in three years. An incredible version too.

'Summer Days' was added to the set in Brisbane, in place of 'Duquesne Whistle'. Bob repeated playing it at both of the following shows in New Zealand. Its country-style arrangement had been debuted the year before in the US.

Bob pulled out two surprises at his concert in Christchurch, New Zealand - the

final night of this particular tour. 'Like A Rolling Stone' and 'It Takes A Lot To Laugh, It Takes A Train To Cry' were each given very interesting new arrangements. Bob continued playing 'Like A Rolling Stone' through his subsequent US 2018 tour but Train To Cry was only performed another four times at the very start of that tour.

A brief history of Newcastle

Newcastle is Australia's seventh largest city population wise, with the region having just under half a million residents in 2018. Located 117 km (73 miles) north of Sydney, Newcastle is synonymous with mining and its history as a 'steel city', but is now also seen as a model of urban renewal.



The nearby Hunter Region possesses large coal deposits and Newcastle has the largest coal exporting harbour in the world. During the 20th century, the city was dominated by the BHP steelworks, however, when those blast furnaces closed in 1999, Newcastle was forced to start a new chapter in its history. Two hundred years prior, the area was called 'Malubimba' by the local Awabakal, Worimi and Mindaribba Indigenous clan groups who had lived there for thousands of years.

In 1797, Lieutenant John Shortland became the first European to explore the area while searching for convicts who had escaped from Sydney Cove. Shortland named the local river the Hunter after the New South Wales' Governor at the time and returned to Sydney with reports of a deep-water port and abundant coal. Over the next two years, coal mined from the area was the New South Wales colony's first export. The region quickly gained a reputation as a hellhole where the most dangerous convicts were sent to dig in the mines as punishment. The convict camp was named Newcastle in 1804, after its English coal port namesake, and a period of harsh military rule followed until 1823. With the end of the penal camp at Newcastle, the town began to attract free settlers.

Change has been forced upon Newcastle before, and post-1999 Novocastrians have

embraced their beachfront and cleaner environment as part of recent reinvigorations of their proud city. If only their football team could get out of the doldrums.

Bob Dylan and the Newcastle Entertainment Centre

The Newcastle Entertainment Centre is an indoor arena located within Newcastle's Showgrounds in the suburb of Broadmeadow. Opened in 1992, it seats 6,000 people in concert mode. The venue also hosted Bob Dylan's only two prior Newcastle concerts – on his 2001 and 2003 Australian tours. A concert in Newcastle was originally planned as part of Dylan's 1992 Australian tour with a date of 27 March 1992 announced. This Newcastle show was included on the 1992 Australian tour t-shirt and in the pre-tour publicity but then did not happen. It would have been Bob's first Australian concert in a non-capital city but that distinction instead belongs to Launceston. Bob's 2003 concert in Newcastle was added to that tour's schedule late in the game, replacing an originally slotted second concert in Sydney. When tickets for the first of those Sydney shows on 17 February 2003 sold slowly, the mooted second show there was instead moved up the M1 to Newcastle. It would be another four tours and 15 years before Bob's return.

by Joey Johns



27/7/18	Seoul, South Korea - Olympic Gymnastics Arena
29/7/18	Yuzawa-cho, Niigata, Japan - Fuji Rock Festival '18 - Naeba Ski Resort
2/8/18	Taipei, Taiwan - International Convention Center
4/8/18	Hong Kong - Hong Kong Convention & Exhibition Centre
6/8/18	Singapore - Star Theatre
8/8/18	Perth Australia - Perth Arena
11/8/18	Adelaide, Australia - Bonython Park
13/8/18	Melbourne, Australia - Margaret Court Arena
14/8/18	Melbourne, Australia - Margaret Court Arena
18/8/18	Sydney, Australia - ICC Sydney Theatre
19/8/18	Sydney, Australia - Enmore Theatre
20/8/18	Wollongong, Australia - WIN Entertainment Centre
22/8/18	Newcastle, Australia - Newcastle Entertainment Centre
24/8/18	Brisbane, Australia - Brisbane Entertainment Centre
26/8/18	Auckland, New Zealand - Spark Arena
28/8/18	Christchurch, New Zealand - Horncastle Arena