

BOB DYLAN: "Kool Cat Pulling Off The Strings"

Here he goes again the old devil. This time Bob Dylan hits the States for his debut 2004 dates in small clubs, avoiding the big arenas. He doesn't need the money, nor the fame, but still seems to find the need to keep on performing. One thing both critics and fans have to admit is the power to continue the gruelling tour schedule at the age of approaching 63 years.

Bob Dylan in 2004 is not the same man as ten years ago during his Woodstock or Unplugged performances. His voice has changed, so has the direction of his songs. The song and dance man has returned from former glories to something brand new. Hard to explain when you listen to his most recent studio albums, but easy to discover on stage.

More and more it seems that the stage is the only place where Dylan feels at ease, at home and at peace with himself. The 2004 spring tour brings out another new face of the performer. The concerts in small theatres seem to improve night after night, they are hailed by fans as the best in many years. Now we've heard the best stories before. But this time, we have to agree: Bob has reached a level seldom heard before. He has found the true nature of his new band and admitted one extra

drummer to this extraordinary combo: Richie Hayward, the conga-man par excellence from the great Little Feat. This extra percussionist brings an extra swing, backbeat and finesse to the new sound.

RATTLESNAKE has chosen the club show from the Kool Haus in Toronto as the main body of this new cd. The theatre only allows 800 fans inside and the acoustics are mindblowin'! Of course, all depends on Bob's mood and song selection. Inside the Kool Haus all fans agreed that this gig was of the best from the spring tour. The sound you hear is what the fans heard in the first row inside the Kool Haus and what the band heard through their stage monitors with a loud, screaming audience right in front! The highlights of the show are too many to mention but let's give all scores to a haunting I Don't Believe You, where Bobby spits out the lyrics as in 1966. And pay attention to a full electric It Ain't Me, Babe, with a new body and a new soul: Newport 1965 is very close again! Furthermore you will discover tour rarities as the everwelcome Just Like Tom Thumb's Blues and a poignant Shooting Star. But all in all it is the sum of all seventeen songs that brings us to a state of mind where art becomes tangible.



Nine more bonus tracks follow and not the least! Some are picked out for their musical tour-de-force, others for being obscure. So let's face Bob Seger's Get Out Of Denver, played with guts in Detroit, home of the not forgotten rocker - he seems to have a new album in the pipeline later in the year. Or the pleasant Ball And Biscuit, played with guitarist Jack White from The White Stripes, an example of respect and plain rock'n roll. Man In The Long Black Coat keeps on surprising the fans, night after night, Blind Willie McTell approaches the 1983 studio version. And what about the wonderful one-off return of Ballad Of Hollis Brown? Or the thunderstorm, full force gale in Diginity. It is all for you to discover, dear fellowers of the club. Bobby delivers, you sing and dance, just like in 1964, 1974, 1984 or 1994. And ladies, if the bikini man blows out a majestic Love Sick as a final encore, don't feel the need to make your own publicity clip frontstage: you won't get paid. After all, the Kool Cat pulled off the strings many moons ago!

The Gentlemen's Club of Spalding Treasurer

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DISC ONE

1.	Intro	1.11
2.	Maggie's Farm (Bob on piano, George on drums)	5.24
3.	Lay, Lady, Lay (Bob on piano, Larry on pedal steel, George and Richie on drums)	4.57
4.	Lonesome Day Blues (Bob on piano, Larry on slide guitar, George and Richie on drums)	6.37
5.	I Don't Believe You (She Acts Like We Never Have Met) (Bob on piano and harp)	6.23
6.	Tweedle Dee & Tweedle Dum (Bob on piano, George and Richie on drums)	5.19
7.	You Ain't Goin' Nowhere (Bob on piano and harp, Larry on pedal steel)	5.43
8.	Cold Irons Bound (Bob on piano, George on drums, Richie on tambourine)	5.55
9.	It Ain't Me, Babe [acoustic] (Bob on piano, Larry on slide guitar, Tony on stand-up bass, George on drums)	5.45
10.	Watching The River Flow (Bob on piano, Larry on slide guitar)	5.45
11.	Just Like A Woman (Bob on piano)	5.58
12.	Just Like Tom Thumb's Blues (Bob on piano and harp)	6.55
13.	Honest With Me (Bob on piano, Larry on slide guitar)	7.13
14.	Shooting Star (Bob on piano and harp, Richie on drums)	4.58
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Total time: 78.12

Band Members:

Bob Dylan - *piano, harp*Freddy Koella - *guitar, slide guitar*George Recile - *drums*

Larry Campbell - guitar, slide guitar, pedal steel, cittern

Tony Garnier - bass

Richie Hayward - drums, tambourine

DISC TWO

1.	Summer Days (Bob on piano, Tony on stand-up bass)	10.00
	ENCORES:	
2.	Cat's In The Well (Bob on piano, George and Richie on drums)	4.40
3.	Like A Rolling Stone (Bob on piano, George and Richie on drums)	7.30
4.	All Along The Watchtower (Bob on piano, George on drums)	6.57
	BONUS TRACKS:	
5.	Get Out Of Denver [Bob Seger] (Bob on piano, George on drums)	3.21
6.	Ball And Biscuit (w/ Jack White on guitar & vocals)	5.11
7.	Man In The Long Black Coat (Bob on piano, Larry on acoustic guitar, George and Richie on drums)	5.38
8.	Hazel (Bob on piano and harp, Larry on pedal steel, George on drums)	5.12
9.	Ring Them Bells (Bob on piano and harp, Larry on pedal steel, Tony on stand-up bass, George on drums)	4.38
10.	Dignity (Bob on piano, George on drums)	6.54
11.	Ballad Of Hollis Brown [acoustic] (Bob on piano and harp, Larry on cittern, Tony on stand-up bass)	5.17
12.	Blind Willie McTell (Bob on piano, Larry on cittern, Richie on drums)	5.56
13.	I Believe In You (Bob on piano and harp, George on drums)	6.23
		ime: 77.48

Recorded live at the Kool Haus in Toronto, Ontario, Canada on March 21st 2004.

Bonus tracks disc two, track 5: State Theater, Detroit, Michigan on March 16th 2004; tracks 6 & 7: State Theater, Detroit, Michigan on March 17th 2004; track 8: 9:30 Club, Washington D.C. on April 2nd 2004; tracks 9 - 11: Bende Arena, American University, Washington D.C. on April 3rd 2004 and tracks 12 & 13: Warner Theater, Washington D.C. on April 4th 2004.