Bob Marley

1. Bob Marley and the Wailers Live at the Rainbow 1977 (Mp4)



On June 2, 1977, London's Rainbow Theatre "caught fire"--in the best possible way, of course. At the time, Bob Marley and the Wailers, already huge in the UK, were on tour in support of the locally produced Exodus. While the show starts off with the slow-burning "Trenchtown Rock" (1973's African Herbsman), Marley's performance grows increasingly incendiary until, by the time they get to the climactic closer, "Exodus," it looks as he's in another world entirely. The turning point is an extended version of "Crazy Baldhead" (1976's Rastaman Vibration), in which Marley seemingly enters a trance, performing primarily with eyes closed. By the late-1970s, Peter Tosh and Bunny Wailer were long gone, making the electrifying Marley more the focus than ever before (and for the first few songs, the rest of the band is barely visible). Other highlights includes "Lively Up Yourself" (1974's Natty Dread), in which Julian "Junior" Marvin throws some Hendrix-style moves into the mix, and "Get Up, Stand Up" (1973's Burnin'), in which the audience echoes Marley's words, as lost in the moment as the man on the stage. This two-disc set includes the 1984 BBC documentary Caribbean Nights (AKA The Bob Marley Story). It features performance excerpts ("Slave Driver" from 1972, "Stir It Up" and "Rastaman Chant" from 1973, "Bad Card" from 1980, etc.), and interviews with Tosh, Joe Higgs, Chris Blackwell, Judy Mowatt, wife Rita Marley, and mother Cedella Booker. --Kathleen C. Fennessy

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2. Live At Santa Barbara 1979 (2003)



1. Positive Vibrations 2. Wake Up and Live 3. I Shot The Sheriff 4. Ambush in the Night 5. Concrete Jungle 6. Running Away 7. Crazy Baldhead 8. Them Belly Full 9. Heathen 10. Ride Natty Ride 11. Africa Unite 12. One Drop 13. Exodus 14. So Much Things To Say 15. Zimbabwe 16. Jamming 17. Is This Love 18. Kinky Reggae 19. Stir It Up 20. Get Up Stand Up Personnel: Bob Marley – guitar, vocals Aston Barrett – bass Carlton Barrett – drums, percussion Earl Lindo – keyboards Junior Marvin – guitar, backing vocals Al Anderson – guitar Alvin Patterson – percussion Tyrone Downie – keyboards, percussion, backing vocals Rita Marley, Marcia Griffiths, Judy Mowatt – backing vocals.

Taken from the Trojan Video Archive, this Bob Marley & The Wailers concert is presented here for the first time on DVD and is the final recorded performance before his death in May 1981.

The concert took place at The Santa Barbara County Bowl on the 25th of November 1979, and the resulting film is an incredible record of Bob Marley's performance; one that is arguable an equal of the better-known 'Live at the Rainbow' show filmed on the Exodus tour in 1977. [As the title of this lens indicates, I have ranked this live concert video better than the one at the

Bob Marley (3)

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Rainbow.] Every song is received rapturously, but the show takes a quantum leap as night falls and Bob and the Wailers burst into 'Exodus', a work of epic poetry. By the time the show is concluding with the militant 'Get Up Stand Up', the entire auditorium is swaying along and mouthing the repeated lines of 'Cos I never give up the fight', a defiant statement of intent that brings this inspirational concert to a close.

With the remastered picture and audio, the original 70-minute version has been extended here for DVD by Dan Letts to include an additional 7 sings from the set not featured in the original VHS release. Also included as a DVD extra is another gem from the Trojan vaults: an archive documentary entitled "Prophecies & Messages." Running at approximately 51 minutes, this includes 30 minutes of previously unseen interview footage with Marley and the Wailer's keyboard player Tyrone Downie discussing Rastafarianism.

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3. Amandla, Harvard Stadium, Boston July 21, 1979



Bob Marley (3)

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1. Exodus 2. Get Up Stand Up 3. Jammin 4. No Woman No Cry 5. Lively Up Yourself 6. No More Trouble 7. Heathen 8. Crazy Baldheads 9. Running Away 10. Belly Full 11. Slave Driver 12. Positive Vibration

There was an historic concert in Harvard Stadium called "Amandla: Festival of Unity," its name taken from the Zulu word for "the power that gives freedom." This seven-hour, sun-drenched celebration of cultural power featured Bob Marley and the Wailers, Patti Labelle, Eddie Palmieri, Olatunji, Jabula, and special guest Dick Gregory. Amandla was no ordinary festival.

This was one of Bob's most unique shows because it was before the beginning of the Survival 1979 tour but it was after the recording of Survival. So this is really one of the first shows of the tour. Bob was asked to do this concert while in Jamaica recording the album survival. Other artists present at the concert were comedian Dick Gregory who paid Bob respect by kissing his hands at the show. They made Bob perform during the afternoon because the promoters feared a powerful performance from Bob could spark a riot. He did give one of his most powerful performances with improvisation on many tracks from both Bob and the band. The most amazing part of this show is the encore in which Bob play 2 new songs at that time. During this long version of Zimbabwe and Wake Up & Live he gives one of his only speeches. Truly a historic moment in the career of Bob Marley.

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