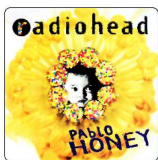


RadioHead - Pablo Honey Deluxe 2CD (2009)

Written by bluesever

Wednesday, 09 December 2009 13:05 - Last Updated Wednesday, 21 November 2018 14:18

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CD1

01. You [03:29]
02. Creep [03:56]
03. How Do You? [02:12]
04. Stop Whispering [05:26]
05. Thinking About You [02:42]
06. Anyone Can Play Guitar [03:38]
07. Ripcord [03:10]
08. Vegetable [03:13]
09. Prove Yourself [02:25]
10. I Can't [04:13]
11. Lurgee [03:08]
12. Blow Out [04:42]

CD2

01. Prove Yourself (Demo) [02:33]
02. Stupid Car (Demo) [02:26]
03. You (Demo) [03:24]
04. Thinking About You (Demo) [02:16]
05. Inside My Head [03:12]
06. Million Dollar Question [03:18]
07. Yes I Am [04:26]
08. Blow Out (Remix) [04:19]
09. Inside My Head (Live) [03:06]
10. Creep (Acoustic) [04:19]
11. Vegetable (Live) [03:09]
12. Killer Cars (Live) [02:15]
13. Faithless The Wonder Boy [04:14]
14. Coke Babies [03:00]
15. Pop Is Dead [02:13]
16. Banana Co (Acoustic) [02:27]
17. Ripcord (Live) [03:15]

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- 18. *Stop Whispering (US Version) [04:11]*
- 19. *Prove Yourself (BBC Radio 1 Evening Session) [02:28]*
- 20. *Creep (BBC Radio 1 Evening Session) [04:02]*
- 21. *I Can't (BBC Radio 1 Evening Session) [03:55]*
- 22. *Nothing Touches Me (BBC Radio 1 Evening Session) [03:50]*

Originally released in 1993, Pablo Honey harkens back to an era when Radiohead was just that new British band with the latest quiet verse/loud chorus song, 'Creep' (to their much-publicized chagrin). The album is now being re-released, along with The Bends and OK Computer, as a special collectors edition.

Pablo Honey is of its time; this is not the pensive Radiohead that emerged in subsequent recordings. The band on this album sounds more like grunge-influenced Brit-pop. Bucking this trend, 'Prove Yourself' is thoughtful and expansive and 'Blow Out' carries that even further, alternating between chill and dense layers of sound. A curious spirit of experimentation touches everything, foreshadowing the more complex musical exploration Radiohead would bring their next album, 'The Bends.'

Disc two gathers all major EPs, singles, b-sides and live recordings related to the album. Early and alternate versions tend to be simpler, without the layers of production and sound found on the album proper, and the performances are often more dynamic and engaging. From the pre-album 'Drill' EP, 'Prove Yourself' is raw and more vulnerable here and 'Thinking Of You' feels more like a punk tune played in a garage instead of the folk song sung out the window of a moving car vibe of its album counterpart.

Live tracks are solid and for the most part are passionate and energized; 'Inside Of My Head' and 'Killer Cars' from the single for 'Creep' are excellent examples. The final four tracks, from the BBC Sessions, are more subdued and cautious but still tight and interesting.

Almost all non-album songs stand on their own; very few could be classified as second-tier material. From the 'Anyone Can Play Guitar' single, 'Faithless, The Wonderboy' is catchy and complex and 'Coke Babies' gently carries the listener in a trance into a lush world of noise and sound. 'Pop Is Dead,' a stand-alone single, is clever and humorous rock satire.

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Together, these tracks paint a picture of a band squarely focused on the music, with a gift for storytelling and creating emotional experiences, with a diverse musical vocabulary. It's a testament to the depth of Radiohead's talent and an indicator of great things to come.

This edition contains no previously unreleased material, so Radiohead completists may already have everything here. But for fans that for whatever reason have not scoured the planet for these recordings, having them neatly assembled will be greatly appreciated. Beyond that, viewed in its own context, the second disc adds something real and deepens the overall musical experience. ---ign.com

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