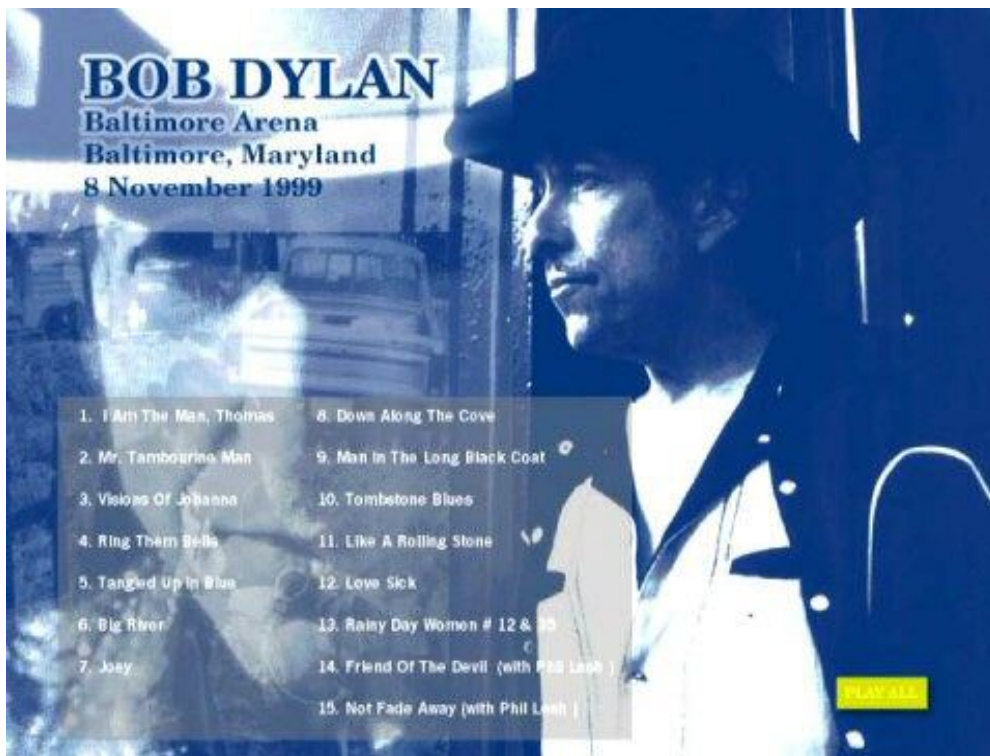


D130.su BALTIMORE, 8 NOVEMBER 1999



SOUND Excellent - very enjoyable

IMAGE Camera is in the balcony, a long way back, a little left-of-centre. Though its zoom can just about do the business, anything closer than head-to-foot is decidedly grainy and some passages of film are better-coloured and contrasted than others. Still (see screenshots below) this is another thoroughly pleasing, capably-crafted video, showing a nice mix of Bob and all his players. (Having said that, Charlie does seem to have inherited Bucky's mantle of Invisible Man - for, though he's here, of course, still he manages far less screen-time than anyone else, including late-arrival Phil Lesh). With one brief exception (a dancing head at the start of Devil) there are no obstructions and steadiness here is exemplary.



RUNNING TIME 98 minutes. Friend Of The Devil is spliced at the end of verse one. All other songs complete.

PERFORMANCE Though in sprightly mood, D makes more vocal fluffs than is usual for him at this time - but good all the same.

HIGHLIGHTS Ring Them Bells stands out - after disappointing renditions at the Supper Club ('93) then Nara ('94), finally, in Charm City, a live version (with Larry's assured hand much in evidence) to do this wonderful song full justice. Visions, a sombre, brooding Long Black Coat and a scorching LARS (peekaboo Charlie tearing it up) all impress too.

COMMENT Phil Lesh plays on the two closing covers and D seems highly pleased - you might almost say delighted - to have him aboard. Musically speaking, at any rate, it's a job to see why.

THANKS ML

STARS A solid four

