

D180.su **VANCOUVER, 14 MAY 1998**

SOUND Probably due to the dubious acoustics of tonight's hockey arena venue, this audience tape starts out less than pristine, with the first few songs a bit murky, but then, from Big Girl on, freshens up such that, overall, it just about deserves its five stars.

IMAGE After moving pics kick in at 10:00 (start of CIB) we're treated to a film shot from a close left side position that gives an oblique view across the front of the stage, allowing an extended look at all players except the unseen, round-the-corner Kemper. Bucky is especially prominent tonight, which is not often the case, so make the most of it and him while you can. Image quality (see below) varies between very good and superb depending on the amount of back-lighting. Apart from isolated short bouts of dizziness at the start of Mobile then Love Sick, camerawork is admirably steady and skilfully controlled, with very few heads (though the film's several breaks may well have been caused, in the encore especially, by an impeded view). Principal obstacle tonight is an inconveniently-placed mike and stand (look closely at the screenshots - it's there in all of them). All in all, handsome but incomplete footage artfully restored with author Ace's usual deft touch to make a winner.



RUNNING TIME 85:45, audio-whole.

PERFORMANCE No complaints. After the previous night's Bob-only loosener at The Rage ([D025.su](#)) this is the first of seven West Coast triple-headers that Bob will play with Joni Mitchell and Van Morrison between here and LA in the next ten days. The shorter sets appear to suit his style - no harmonica, but enthusiasm and energy to spare.

HIGHLIGHTS Big Girl, Cocaine, a fine Forever Young, Love Sick.

COMMENT (1) It might just be my fancy, but during Silvio especially, though at other times too, Bob appears to be aware of - and not too happy about - the camera's presence. After one particularly baleful glance, it even, whether co-incidentally or not, stops filming. See what *you* make of it. (2) Watch out, too, for the brief knowing look that passes between Bucky and Tony when D mixes up his east and west during the first refrain of Released. (3) *There's a story behind that song - but I'm not gonna tell it!* (A teasing, less than communicative D on T Man ...)



GRACIAS Viner pelino



STARS A solid four - though, if you want just one gig from this tour, I'd opt (because of its superior audio) for D174.su.