

D214 CARDIFF, 27 MARCH 1995

SOUND Nice but ... (see COMMENT below)

IMAGE Tonight's camera has a right-side elevated position with a splendid, virtually unobstructed view. Film is very steady and consistently watchable, though colours are muted. Some close (chest-up) shots during Maggie's Farm but mainly full-body or thereabouts, mostly of Bob with JJ behind. Of the stage-right players relatively little is seen. (Weird, by the way, that this band contains a JJ, a BB and a WW. Just have Tony start calling himself Greg for BD and The Alliterations ...)

RUNNING TIME 92 minutes. Fourteen of this show's fifteen songs are here (Tangled, which the crowd heard between JLaw and Born In Time, we don't). The first verse of the opening Flood is gone, as are the first three lines of Dignity and the first four of LARS. Other songs complete or virtually so.

PERFORMANCE For much of the gig, D seems strangely unenthused. You'd almost think, standing at the mike, he was knocking off demos into an empty room rather than giving of his best to a hall full of the faithful. (Saving himself, perhaps, for his forthcoming assault on London?) Tempo picks up a little from Dignity on, but never what you'd call *fiery*.

HIGHLIGHTS (1) A mellow Boots (2) She Belongs To Me (shame about the roof-camera ending - the only time it happens all night!) (3) A fine, extended and exceptionally well-filmed It Ain't Me, Babe.

COMMENT Beware that, though [D214](#) has a soundtrack that's basically not half bad, the one on the authored version is sadly pock-marked throughout with regularly recurring blips accidentally inserted during the authoring process. This same fault occurs for the same reason on at least three other discs ([D032](#), [D085](#) and [D626](#)) also. Since this defect was drawn to the author's attention, [D085](#) has been re-authored to restore its soundtrack to its original, unblemished condition. Unfortunately, this means that both blipped and unblipped versions of [D085](#) now circulate (thus caution if trading). [D032](#) has been sound-upgraded (thus resolving the problem) and [D626](#) is probably too mediocre to be worth bothering about. But this DVD - [D214](#) - certainly deserves better, so let's hope it gets the same restorative treatment* granted to [D085](#). Until or unless that happens, if you want this show, you need to consider carefully whether to source the authored or unauthored version - or, put another way, ask yourself which means more to you, a nice menu (go for the authored) or an immaculate soundtrack (avoid the authored)? Alternatively, if you're after some up-market 1995 but don't mind which date, try [D182](#), [D257.su](#) or [D357.su](#) instead - all extremely good to [D214](#)'s pretty good. As NET years go, '95's surely up there with the best, so don't miss out!

BEDANKT HK

STARS Four

* [D214.su](#) is superbly good. Respect, yassou.