



It's a Beautiful Day – Live at the Fillmore '68

Casual listeners – the kind whose knowledge of **It's a Beautiful Day** extends little beyond familiarity with the lilting, ethereal sounds of the group's "White Bird" (a hit on both AM and FM radio) – have a skewed conception of what the band was like. While "White Bird" was all gentleness and light, elsewhere (and especially onstage) the band cooked; they had more in common with **Canned Heat** and **The Doors**. **David LaFlamme** and **Patti Santos**' dual lead vocals on "Wasted Union Blues," for example, sounds more like **Marty Balin** and **Grace Slick** than the duo who sang about birds who must fly lest they die. Of course **Linda LaFlamme**'s combo organ and David's electric violin add an otherworldly, spooky vibe to the songs. Anyone who thinks a violin inhibits a band's ability (or propensity) to rock hasn't heard this set from the band's early days. Though the sound and music are superb, this release's packaging and info are on the dodgy side; several tunes originally co-credited with then-spouse Linda are credited here solely to David LaFlamme. The package includes a DVD entitled *The David LaFlamme Story*. You decide if those bits of info might be connected.

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