



BOB DYLAN

Rolling Thunder and the Gospel Years
(Highway 61 Entertainment)

Covering Dylan's Rolling Thunder and Gospel era (1975-1981), including the albums *Desire*, *Hard Rain*, *Street Legal*, the musically underappreciated *Slow Train Coming* and *Saved, Shot of Love* and the film *Renaldo & Clara*, this "unauthorized" four hour documentary attempts to inform the viewer of nearly every bit of significant information that occurred behind the scenes during this period in Dylan's life. Producer/Dylanologist/Dylan Performance Artist Joel Gilbert does not fail in this endeavor, but be advised that this DVD is not for the casual Dylan fan. Lots of minutiae here, including rarely-if-ever seen stills and live action footage, and a previously unseen interview with Dylan himself. Overall, this is a very entertaining vehicle whose only slow point comes in the opening 26 minute interview with Rubin Hurricane Carter, who goes on ad infinitum not only about his case, but also, tediously, himself. Featuring interviews with fellow Rolling Thunderers, various counselors and band members during Dylan's born again phase, and other significant talking heads in the Dylan oeuvre, Dylanophiles will savor this collection for a variety of reasons, not least of which is the inclusion of aural excerpts and still photographs of Dylan preaching onstage during the gospel tours. Also included are extras on Dylan's Minnesota origins, an interview with Ramblin' Jack Elliott, and a nice still photo gallery. Recommended.
-- Jon McAuliffe



Film Rating



DVD Rating

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