

outrageous fashions sported by some, the violence at some of the gigs, and, in some cases, being chased up the street after gigs by those that didn't like punks or their look. Many also discuss what they saw as the dire need to shake up what was considered a very bland music scene in which once-revolutionary bands and artists had become part of the jet set. Prog rock was a particular target for some. On that topic, The Damned's Captain Sensible states, "It was time for the likes of ELP and Yes to f--- right off and take their songs about elves and wizards with them."

Among those sharing memories in the book are Mick Jones, Debbie Harry, Steve Diggle, Paul Weller, Glen Matlock and Iggy Pop.

The book can be purchased at nicetimeincproductions.co.uk/shop/growing-up-with-punk.
—John Curley

VARIOUS ARTISTS WOODY GUTHRIE: THE TRIBUTE CONCERTS

Bear Family (3-CD Box Set w/ two Hardbound Books)

★★★★★

Writing of the Great Depression's downtrodden, its restless wanderers and its Dust



Bowl refugees, and then later of deported Mexican farm workers, Woodrow Wilson Guthrie [1912-67] was like a populist poet laureate of America's past and present. "This Land Is Your Land" and "Pastures Of Plenty"—not to mention children's songs such as "Howdido"—stand with his classics. Pete Seeger, young Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen and Steve Earle are his heirs.

Huntington's chorea — an hereditary degenerative nerve disease — wrecked his mind and body. Mixing Guthrie's songs and prose, these concerts at New York's Carnegie Hall in 1968 and The Hollywood Bowl in Los Angeles in 1970 were fundraisers to fight the disease. Back then, they were pruned down and for some reason mixed together on two separately packaged LPs. Now we get them in their original song sequences in totality except for eight numbers on a missing Carnegie tape.

Seeger, son Arlo Guthrie, Joan Baez, Richie Havens and Ramblin' Jack Elliott (who played Sancho Panza to Woody's Don Quixote) were among the singers. The LA show rocked. The New York show was acoustic except for Dylan in his first public performance since his motorcycle accident. Backed by The Band (whose debut LP was soon to come), his three songs included an elegy to New Deal era President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Odetta's ebony magnificence shone on "Ramblin' Round" written in the voice of a hungry migrant worker. On

Carnegie's stage, Judy Collins powerfully delivered Woody's account of his sister Clara's fiery death when he was six (Baez and Peter Fonda shared the passage at The Hollywood Bowl). Country Joe McDonald's metaphorically sexual "Woman At Home"—the song's first performance ever — followed Fonda's recitation of Woody's gorgeous erotica.

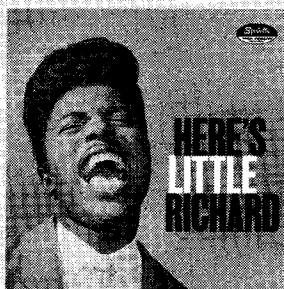
Among the box's superb books' quotes — some quite critical of the shows — Richard Goldstein wrote in a review in *Vogue*, "Like Woody, Dylan solders the bits and pieces of his time into musical sculpture." The books are a treasure trove of Depression-era photos, prolific Woody's cartoons, an ode to him by Dylan and original dated lyrics — some typed, some written in his tight, orderly script. Based on outlaw folk ballad "Jesse James," Woody's 1943 "Jesus Christ" has different lines than Arlo sang in L.A. We see from a 1940 draft that "This Land Is Your Land" started out titled "God Blessed America."

Penned merely as an advertising jingle for hydroelectric power, "Roll On Columbia" has become a timeless anthem for the Pacific Northwest. And when, in "Biggest Thing That Man Has Ever Done (The Great Historical Bum)," Woody — himself a great historical bum — glided in just two lines from the Garden Of Eden to modern-day apple pickers unionizing, we witness how he wrote not only for his own time but for all time.

—Bruce Sylvester

QUICK PICKS

BY GILLIAN G. GAAR



LITTLE RICHARD

HERE'S LITTLE RICHARD

Craft Recordings (2-CD)

Genre: Rock 'n' Roll

This expanded reissue of Little Richard's first album comes with a generous 22 bonus tracks, including such previously unreleased gems as a demo of "Slippin' and Slidin'" and the first take of "Ready Teddy."

VARIOUS ARTISTS

DOA: A RIGHT OF PASSAGE

MVD Rewind (DVD/Blu-ray Box Set)

Genre: Punk

Never before available on DVD (or Blu-ray), this documentary is a must have for punk aficionados, for its footage of the Sex Pistols' ill-fated U.S. tour,

not to mention X-Ray Spex, Sham 69, Generation X, and a chilling interview with Sid Vicious and Nancy Spungen. There's bonus footage as well.

SUSAN WHITALL WOMEN OF MOTOWN: AN ORAL HISTORY

Devault-Graves Digital Editions (Paperback)

Genre: Oral history

Back in print, in an expanded edition, after being unavailable for many years, *Women of Motown* delivers straight talk from the likes of Claudette Robinson (the Miracles), Martha Reeves, and the post-Diana Ross Supremes.

TONY FLETCHER IN THE MIDNIGHT HOUSE: THE LIFE & SOUL OF WILSON PICKETT

Oxford University Press (Hardback)

Genre: Biography

This first-ever biography of Pickett takes you step by step through the life of singer best known for "In the Midnight Hour" and "Land of 1000 Dances." Fletcher's eye for detail adds richness to the story.