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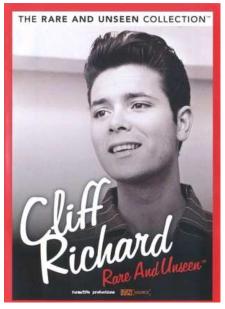
# 'Rare and Unseen' look at British rocker Cliff Richard

By Mark Wyckoff

Posted October 28, 2010 at 12:01 a.m.

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MVD Visual

What becomes a legend most? Modesty.

Even when TV host Russell Harty declares him a legend, and a smitten studio audience agrees, British pop star Cliff Richard brushes off the compliment with absolute sincerity. "I think if years made you a legend, then maybe I am ... but I don't know about that, you see, because it takes a lot to be a legend," he says.

In Britain, and throughout much of the world, Richard is indeed a legend, having sold more than 200 million records since crashing onto the U.K. charts in 1958 with the No. 2 hit "Move It." The Beatles idolized him, and John Lennon said he considered "Move It" to be Britain's first real rock record. "Before Cliff, there was nothing," he declared.

Richard turned 70 this year, and celebrated his birthday by playing six sold-out shows at London's Royal Albert Hall and releasing an album of standards, "Bold as Brass." Among the glut of ancillary releases is "Cliff Richard: Rare and Unseen," a new DVD from MVD Visual that pieces together 60 minutes' worth of disparate archive footage from Britain's ITV network into a quasi-documentary that explores Richards' fame and faith. Featured are snippets from two Harty interviews (in 1973 and 1976); black-and-white footage from a 1968 religious special in which Richard discusses Christianity; concert scenes from a 1980 "Rock Gospel" show; and clips of Richard and his band, The Shadows, discussing their 50th reunion.

The clips are cool, but the diehard Richards fans who will buy this DVD don't want mere clips. They want the footage complete and unedited. Anything less is just an unsatisfying tease.

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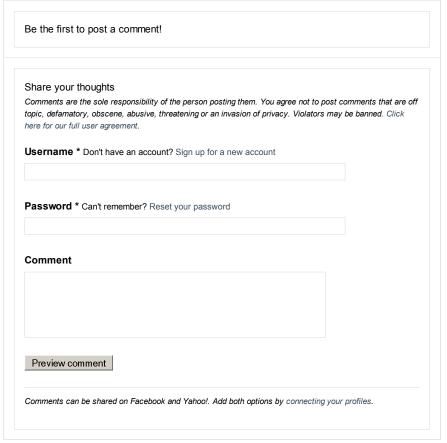


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