

Babe of the Month



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BOB DYLAN REVEALED: BD REVIEW

by Mike Restaino

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The man, the legend, the outlaw, the cowboy - whoever he is, Bob Dylan turns 70 this year, so it comes as little surprise that we're getting a few new products on the market that take a look at Robert Z. and his career as an impossibly diverse whole. Bob Dylan Revealed would like very much to be a more comprehensive No Direction Home, but even though it misses that mark (by a pretty wide margin), it allows for some cool interview material.

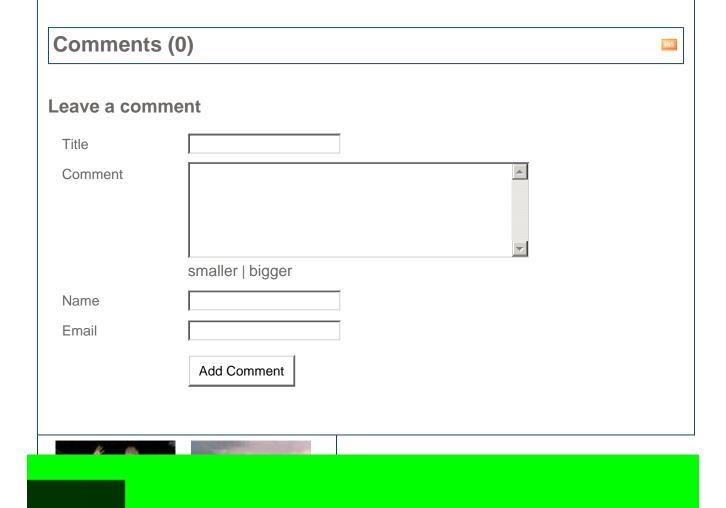
The man himself never actually appears as a subject - Dylan exists here as archive material only - but for those of us who have been digesting and redigesting his songs for so many years, it's cool to hear from Rubin Carter (the subject of Dylan's song "Hurricane"), and a perspective on Dylan's born-again Christian phase with pastor Bill Dwyer, among others.



But because *Bob Dylan Revealed* wasn't officially sanctioned by the Dylan camp, things stay pretty cursory. This is the first doc on Dylan that spans both the early-60s troubadour years and the current Never Ending Tour cycle, but *Bob Dylan Revealed* ends up being too bland for newcomers and not meaty enough for those of us firmly versed in Dylan lore.

No, *Bob Dylan Revealed* isn't necessary viewing, but I do like this concept of celebrating the man's 70th. For what it's worth, his Never Ending Tour is still chugging along, and if this round continues to be in keeping with the set I saw in Santa Barbara two weeks ago, I'd save your *Bob Dylan Revealed* pocket money and save up for a ticket when Dylan comes to your town. He's as mystic and mumbly as ever (meant as a warm compliment), and he very well may have the best touring band in rock and roll. Check it out.

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