

THE Nation.

If you want to spend more time with music on your TV (etc.) there a new bluray of Cream's 2005 reunion show at Royal Albert Hall and it's beautifully shot and the sound is incredible. The music is only so-so as Cream is one of the most overrated bands in history; Clapton's solo career has many much higher points, but the versions of "Badge" "White Room" and "Sunshine" are pretty nice and some of the other songs amost make up for Ginger Baker's hysterical drumming. (They leave off "Tales of Brave Ulysses" for no good reason.) I've also been watching new Bluray shows from Bad Company, Emerson Lake & Palmer and Peter Gabriel. They all sound terrific and all are, of course, a matter of taste. Gabriel: "New Blood - Live in London" and it will please his fans without a doubt. Bad Company live at Wembley Arena in April 2010, has the three surviving original members Paul Rodgers, Mick Ralphs and Simon Kirke with Howard Leese on guitars and Lynn Sorensen on bass, and a guest appearance by Jimmy Page. In the case of both this and the Emerson Lake & Palmer - 40th Anniversary Reunion Concert, it depends on how you feel about seeing these guys about thirty years older (and pauchier) than you remember them. For me, I prefer just the music and the memories of my unhappy youth, The value of these, however, is that the music sounds better than ever, because nothing recreates as well as bluray. Your call on all concerned.