

IKE & TINA TURNER - *On The Road 1971-72*

Weinerworld DVD

Filmed by acclaimed rock photographer Bob Gruen and his wife Nadya on a portable video camera over a two year period this feature length documentary gives a highly evocative glimpse of life on the road with Ike & Tina, the fabulous all action Ikettes and their red hot backing band during the early 70s. Shot principally in black and white with the occasional colour sequence appearing seemingly at random the quality of the footage reflects the fact that it was shot on video tape as opposed to film stock. Nevertheless, this is historically important material capturing as it does Ike & Tina at arguably the peak of their powers as a live act.

Travelling as part of Ike & Tina's entourage Bob and Nadya Gruen's camera captures the reality of life on the road whether riding in cars, boarding planes, checking into motels, getting ready for showtime in anonymous dressing rooms, rehearsing dance moves back stage or appearing on the *Tonight* show with Johnny Carson. Then there's the actual live footage itself which shows the calibre of the dynamite soul review Ike & Tina were fronting at the time as they're shown lighting up the stage with such familiar staples from their live show as 'River Deep Mountain High', 'Shake A Tail Feather', 'Respect' and 'Proud Mary' side by side high energy covers of James Brown's 'There Was a Time' and Sly Stone's 'I Want To Take You Higher'.

- Grahame Bent