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http://classicrock.about.com/od/NewReleaseCalendar/tp/Quick-Takes-On-Recent-Classic-Rock-Cd-Dvd-Releases.htm

Quick takes on recent classic rock CD, DVDreleases Quick, before the old year passes

uring the five years (1963-68) that the first edition of <u>The Yardbirds</u>existed, they earned a spot in classic rock immortality by having employed three musicians who would ultimately be recognized as three of the greatest rock guitarists of all time: <u>Eric Clapton</u>, <u>Jeff Beck</u> and <u>Jimmy Page</u>. The band also broke new ground in the nascent psychedelic rock genre, and introduced a number of electric guitar tricks and techniques that were unique then, commonplace now.

In 1995 two of the band's founding members, drummer <u>Jim McCarty</u> and rhythm guitarist/bassist <u>Chris Dreja</u> brought the band to life once again, almost 25 years after the original group disbanded. The new version of the band released a studio album of new music in 2003, and they have toured extensively -- enough to have also produced five live albums. The latest, *Making Tracks* is a two-disc collection culled from various live gigs, and a film documenting the tour.

Make no mistake, The Yardbirds are not a "greatest hits" band. Although their set lists contain songs that the original band are best known for, like "Heart Full of Soul," "For Your Love," "I'm a Man" and "Train Kept Rollin", their performances also sample their modern-era material. In either case, this incarnation of The Yardbirds hasn't strayed from the unique mix of hard rock, psych rock and good old 12-bar blues that the original band perfected.

Making Tracks is available on DVD.