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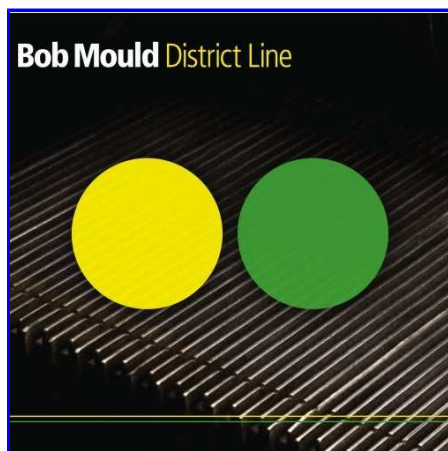
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Friday, March 07, 2008

Review: Bob Mould - District Line -



I'm fairly sure that just about everyone (even if they don't love it) at least respects Bob Mould's pioneering work as the front man of Minneapolis punks Husker Du. And as great as Husker Du was, I loved the early 90's power-pop of Mould's trio Sugar even more. It is hard to believe (and equally amazing) that [Bob Mould](#) has (now) been making music for almost 30 years. Not just any music, but music that is always relevant; music that shows he isn't content resting on his laurels.

Late last year I picked up a copy of Bob Mould's recent concert DVD *Circle Of Friends*. It is an excellent document of a live show that spans Mould's entire catalog and actually got me really excited to hear his newest album *District Line*. I'll admit that I sorta lost touch with Mould's music after the demise of Sugar in the mid 90's, in part, because he stopped making music for a few years, but also because I'd moved on to other bands; other genres. I was a fickle teenager at the time but weren't we all once.

Fast forward to 2008 and as I'm listening to the first song off *District Line* I can't help but think about how much energy the music has. I think about the fact that Brendan Canty (of Fugazi) has been playing drums with Mould recently. I think about the unabashed emotions that Mould pours into these songs. I think about how little difference there really is between (say) "Stupid Now" and "A Good Idea." Bob Mould has still got it. Whatever it is, he has it. Certainly though there are changes. We are all older (if not any wiser) and many things have changed in the last 10 years. Mould has incorporated electronic and dance music and combined it with power-pop moments as well as more introspective ones.

The bottom line (however) is that *District Line* is great. It isn't *Copper Blue* or *Zen Arcade*, but it is still great. I don't know if a 15 year old kid would love this the way I loved *Copper Blue* so many years ago, but (at this point) I don't think that Bob Mould is making music to satisfy anyone but himself. And if that means more records like *District Line*, I'm fine with that.

Now on this Friday evening I should actually be at Chicago's Metro to see Bob Mould live, but due to a number of factors (mainly work and being sick and exhausted) I didn't make it downtown to catch the show. So instead I'm sipping some green tee and watching Mould's *Circle Of Friends* DVD; and wishing I was at Metro.

MP3 | [▶ Bob Mould - The Silence Between Us](#) *District Line*

MP3 | [▶ Bob Mould - Stupid Now](#) *District Line*

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[e Jason](#) at [6:34 AM](#)

This is a great album! And, yes, whatever 'it' is, he certainly still has 'it!' With songs like "Stupid Now," he might have more of 'it' than he ever had!

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