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Leonard Cohen's Lonesome Heroes

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By now, the last thing you'd think the music world would need is yet another **Leonard Cohen** documentary, and, perhaps, that's true. For those of us with an appetite for all things Cohen, though, too much is never enough. While stopping just short of revelatory, **Lonesome Heroes** adds a scholarly perspective to what we already know about the iconic singer/songwriter/poet/novelist.

There's enough concert footage and archival material to suit fans, but the discussions of Cohen's literary influences, religious and musical roots are what make this DVD fascinating. They include the Canadian writers who served early on as tutors and peers, many of whom we've learned about in previous documentaries. Beyond them were such disparate voices as **Henry Miller**, **Jacques Brel**, **Hank Williams**, **Federico Garcia Lorca**, **Ray Charles**, **Bob Dylan**, **Allen Ginsburg** and the Beats, various folkies and religious figures. Their legacy is dissected by Cohen biographers **Ira Nadel** and **Stephen Scobie**, Beat Generation expert **John Tytell**, Garcia Lorca scholar **Leslie Stainton**, rock critic **Anthony DeCurtis**, Buddhist monk **Kigen** and **Judy Collins**, who introduced his songs to mass audiences. **Lonesome Heroes** is a terrific addition to the Cohen canon.

- Gary Dretzka