

[The Stooges Music](#) Get The Stooges "Live at Ungano's" available only from Rhino Handmade www.rhino.com/the-stooges

[Find Local Movie Times](#) Local Movie Times For Every Theater Find Theaters, Movie Reviews & More themovieshowtimes.com

SECTIONS WRITERS PARTNERS MORE

[TV/Film](#) [Music](#) [Culture](#) [Sci/Tech](#) [Books](#) [Politics](#) [Sports](#) [Gaming](#) [Tastes](#)

search blogcritics



Write for Blogcritics! Find out how.

Home Music **Music DVD Review: America's Music Legacy: Soul**

"A sinister cabal of superior writers."

Music DVD Review: America's Music Legacy: Soul

Share 0 0 tweet



Author: Jack Goodstein — Published: Nov 11, 2010 at 10:14 am

0 comments

Ads by Google: [Music](#) [Big Band Music](#) [Sax Jazz Music](#) [Free Music CD](#)

BC Music Premium
Target Music Lovers!

Sach O: Do or Die ft. Kanye West - Higher
Homage and Mick Boogie Team Up For NBA Jam Mixtape and Tee
Watch Passion Pit Go Acoustic Mix Tape: Do You Like To Laugh? Pt. 3
Unchill AZN bro gets his nipples pierced [via Janet Jackson Super Bowl meme]
Mozart: A Couple Hundred Years Later, Wall Street Journal Reminds Mozart's Sister She Wasn't That Great
Passion Pit Get All Acoustic Read more...
Warning: Gruesome Video Footage

Graphic video shows why everyone would be vegetarian if slaughterhouses had glass walls.

[See it now!](#)
[Read more...](#)
[Advertise here now](#)

Phila Wedding Band Music
Philly Horn Band, Philadelphia's Ultimate Wedding & Party Band

Rhapsody® Official Site
Listen to Unlimited Music. 2 Week Free Trial then Only \$9.99/month!

Ads by Google

Sometimes the DVD's in the *America's Music Legacy* series remind me of nothing so much as one of those PBS oldies broadcasts only without the pledge drive breaks. There is a collection of fond memories of youth, some grown old gracefully, some not so gracefully, but all aglow with nostalgia. The *Legacy* presentation of *Soul* is no exception.

Basically a concert recorded sometime in 1983, it features performances by the likes of James Brown, Gladys Knight and the Pips, and Tyrone Davis. The one advantage this has over the PBS shows is that since this is a concert from the eighties, the singers still look pretty darn good. More importantly, they sound darn good, too.

Host for the concert is Leon Isaac Kennedy and while he is certainly a personable young man, the introductory material written for him leaves a good deal to be desired. It smacks of ad copy smarm, rather than the raw power associated with soul. This is especially true of the attempt to articulate some sort of definition of "soul." Too often, the only point the writers seem to be making is that soul draws from so many musical influences it is really not possible to define it. Certainly there are elements of gospel, rhythm and blues, and jazz, as well as a good many others, still one would think that a more or less cogent definition of the genre would not be impossible. Introductions to the individual acts are often labored as well.

The music is another story. James Brown opens the concert with characteristic high power performances of "Rap Payback" and "Jam." The latter featuring really excellent trombone and trumpet solos by unnamed musicians. Brown returns later for a dynamic turn on "The Man

Understands." Sweat pouring down from his brow it is clear that this is, indeed, the hardest working man in show business.

Ben E. King does "Spanish Harlem," and there is a cut in from an interview where he describes his discomfort with the Spanish feel of the music and the ruse that was used to make him comfortable during the original recording. This is one of the few interviews on the DVD. In the other, the lesser known Tyrone Davis talks about advice he was given by B. B. King that it was always essential for a performer to give his all. Davis, who is from Chicago, sings "Turn Back the Hands of Time" and comes back later in the show to do an interesting jazz version of a song called "In the Mood." (This is not the more famous Glen Miller tune.)

[Continued on the next page](#)

Page 1 — Page 2

The Stooges Music
Get The Stooges "Live at Ungano's" available only from Rhino Handmade www.rhino.com/the-stooges

Find Local Movie Times
Local Movie Times For Every Theater Find Theaters, Movie Reviews & More themovieshowtimes.com

Ads by Google

Recent Music Features

- [Marty's Musical Meltdown](#)
- [From The Songbook](#)
- [An Interview with...](#)
- [The Discographer](#)
- [New Album Releases](#)

[view more Music features](#)

blogcritics lists for Nov 12, 2010

fresh articles

Most recent articles site-wide

- [Music Review: Idlewild - Post Electric Blues](#) by Charlie Doherty
- [Book Review: Cinema Futura: Essays on Favourite Science Fiction Movies](#) by Mark Morris by Scotty2
- [By George, He's Back](#) by Cordi Villa
- [Music Review: Junior Wells & The Aces - Live In Boston 1966](#) by Richard Marcus
- [XBox 360 Review: Fable III](#) by Mindy Peterman

fresh comments

Most recent comments site-wide

most comments

Most comments in 24hrs

top writers

Most prolific Blogcritics for October

top commenters

Most prolific Commenters in 24 hrs

Article tags

Ben E. King • Freda Payne • Gladys Knight and the Pips • James Brown • Otis Redding • Rufus Thomas • soul music

Spread the word [social media icons]



Article Author: Jack Goodstein

Visit Jack Goodstein's author page — Jack Goodstein's Blog

Read comments on this article, and add some feedback of your own



Gold

Release date: 2006-05-23

Publisher: Hip-O Records

Import only pressings of the Gold series issued through Universal International featuring exclusive limited edition packaging. This series contains two CDs pressed on gold discs in a slimline double ...

Article comments

Subscribe to comment RSS

Add your comment, speak your mind

Personal attacks are NOT allowed. Please read our comment policy.

Name:

URL:

Remember name and url?

Comment:

Preview Comment

Please preview your comment.

Post Comment



TV Review: In Treatment: Week Three - "You're Speaking Very Loudly" by Kate Shea Kennon on November 11, 2010



A New Solution for Deficit Reduction: Hire Russ Feingold by Scott Nance on November 11, 2010



Why Haiti Must Stay at the Forefront of Our Minds by Dean Stephens on November 11, 2010



An Interview with Eric Burns Author of Invasion of the Mind Snatchers: Television's Conquest of America in the Fifties by Scott Butki on November 11, 2010

Thinkfinity | verizon foundation Visit Thinkfinity.org for cool resources, lesson plans and fun student activities

Music Highlights



America's Music Legacy: Soul by Jack Goodstein on Nov 11, 2010



Free Download From Shilpa Ray by Emm on Nov 11, 2010



Phil Collins - Going Back Live by Mindy Peterman on Nov 10, 2010

I "CURED" my Yellow Teeth



Learn the trick discovered by a mom, to turn yellow teeth white from home.

DON'T Pay for White Teeth



Learn the trick discovered by a mom, to turn yellow teeth white from home.

CURE Yellow Teeth



Learn the trick discovered by a mom.

Blogcritics

Contact Blogcritics Advertising About Blogcritics

Legal

Terms of Service Privacy Policy DMCA

RSS feeds

All RSS Feeds (240+) All BC Articles All BC Comments

Article Archives

- 2002 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2003 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2004 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2005 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2006 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2007 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec
2010 Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

BC Follow Blogcritics on Twitter twitter.com/blogcritics