



David Bowie The Plastic Soul Review

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For die-hard {David Bowie} fans the transition from {Diamond Dogs} to {Young Americans} was not easy, yet this DVD is better than most of the "Under Review"-type analysis out there for much of the same crew that gave us the superior {Mott The Hoople Under Review} work their magic here again unraveling the tale of the "thin white duke" and his chameleon identity shifts. The bigger the star the tougher it seems to be for these production companies to do an in-depth investigation, but the presence of pianist {Mike Garson} and drummer {Andy Newmark} on this study does much to dissipate the dreadful pretensions the narrator, {Thomas Arnold}'s "voiceover", puts on display, most notably calling David "Boww-wee" instead of utilizing the Bowie-knife pronunciation, which is what the former {David Jones} chose as his name. And yes, some of these critics go off-script and pontificate so, instead of a full compelling hour of information that the {Kate Bush} and {Leonard Cohen} "under review" discs offer, this investigation has a few minuses along with the pluses, though {Plastic Soul Review} certainly doesn't descend into the depths found on {The Killers Leaving Las Vegas} or the doubly tedious {U2 The DVD Collectors Box}. Perhaps it is because no other artist morphed from science fiction character into blue-eyed soul singer in such an instantaneous explosion and grasping how and why he did it is a worthwhile topic that will beg further commentary. There's a very nice 1975 BBC clip of {John Lennon} that comes in around the 38 minute mark, an advertisement for {Diamond Dogs} and lots more nifty footage from multiple areas of Bowie's vast career, which shows that the producers put some care and deep thought into this exploration. Though the "examination" focuses on {David Live}, {Young Americans} and {Station To Station}, many phases of the artist's career are discussed and, for the most part, the information holds your attention. B+.

Joe Viglione