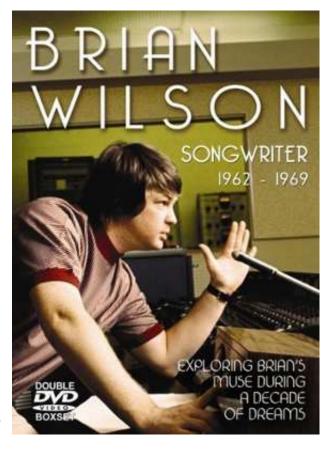


Magazine & Records

Brian Wilson: Songwriter (1962-1969)

Brian Wilson Songwriter (1962-1969) (MVD)

This fascinating double disc set delves into the songwriting approach of the great Brian Wilson. At this point, most music fans recognize the brilliance and the genius that is Brian Wilson. He was the first "rock" musician/songwriter to incorporate jazz chords and voicings into his work to great success. Whereas early rock 'n' roll was on its way to being pigeonholed as a fad, Wilson, along with Lennon/McCartney, kicked down the doors of preconception and ensured that the genre was here to stay.



This impressive documentary contains over three hours of interviews, archived and rare performance footage. Of note, is one-time Beach Boys guitarist David Marks' participation. He talks at length about the formative years of the group and Wilson's struggle early on with his father/manager Murray and other "producers" over control of his musical vision. Marks, a childhood friend of Carl Wilson, joined the band at the age of 13 in early 1962, remained through 1963 and played on many of their seminal beach-inspired hits.

This story is told through extensive interviews with Marks; fellow Beach Boy Bruce Johnston; Wrecking Crew musicians Carol Kaye and Hal Blaine; Beach Boys manager Fred Vail; producers Russ Titelman and Bill Halverson; family friends labeled "Part 1." Since the documentary examines the rich tapestry of music Wilson wrote between 1962 and 1969, surely/hopefully "Part 2" will be available at some point in the future.

The extras/bonus material is also a plus. Along with extended interview segments and a special feature that looks forward into the 1970s and the Beach Boys transition from being a cutting edge musical force to settling in as "America's Band."

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