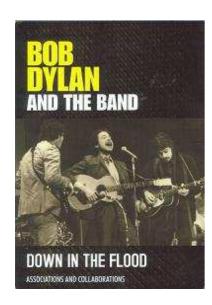
3 weeks ago

Bob Dylan and The Band – Down in the Flood



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What else can be said about Bob Dylan? The truth is that, like the Beatles, Robert Allen Zimmerman's life (aka Bob Dylan) has been documented in unprecedented ways – these are true icons of our times. And he is still making music, "Tempest' being his most recent effort. It is also true that Dylan's life as a musician has had quite an interesting evolution. The very absorbing and illuminating "Bob Dylan and The Band – Down in the Flood" provides an honest look at one of those chapters in Dylan's evolution that left a mark in the history of Rock & Roll.

The documentary begins by informing us that "in 1966, Dylan began his first electric world tour -- landmark moment that divided his audience. Backing him was a Canadian group called The Hawks, later renamed The Band." These words serve to introduce us to the history of The Band in Toronto, Canada, and we are told that popular Ronnie Hawkins & The Hawks was kind of the main motor for the group. After Ronnie's separation from the group, it became Levon and The Hawks, named after drummer Levon Helm. With time, Levon quit the group when they went to work for Dylan, and they eventually became simply The Band. The film also includes material from the period in which The Band moved to Woodstock, after finishing their engagement with Dylan, and how they generated some interesting music during that time. Of course, we also watch footage from Dylan's performance with the group on the electric tour, in which they were booed by the people that didn't like Dylan's musical change of musical direction. It also goes in detail about Dylan's motorcycle accident, Helm's return to the group, Dylan and The Band in the Isle of Wright in 1974, the recordings that they did together, the so-called "basement tapes," and, of course, the reunion of the Band with Dylan and other guest artists, which resulted in the film "The Last Waltz," directed my Martin Scorsese. In addition, there is also some footage about Dylan working with other artists in different projects, like Johnny Cash and Earl Scruggs.

The film features interviews with writers Anthony De Curtis, Derek Barker, and Robert Christgau, as well as musicians as Garth Hudson, Charlie McCoy, Ronnie Hawkins, and producer John Simon. Some of the songs or part of songs, performed by Dylan include: Baby Let Me follow you down, Big River, Million Dollar Bash,

Nothing was delivered, Don't ya tell Henry, Sign of the Cross, All along the Watchtower, and more. Songs with The Band include The Weight, Long Black Veil, Chest Fever, Tears of Rage, I shall be released, King Harvest, among others.

"Bob Dylan and The Band - Down in the Flood" is full of information and archival footage, a must for any fan of Bob Dylan, The Band, or the two together - it is Rock & Roll history at best, a keeper for sure. (UK, 2012, color and B&W, 114 min). Reviewed on December 24, 2012. Sexy Intellectual

Posted 3 weeks ago by Contact Info

Labels: Earl Scruggs, Tempest, Robert Allen Zimmerman, Robert Christgau, Derek Barker, The Band, Charlie McCoy, Ronnie Hawkins, The Hawks, Anthony De Curtis, Martin Scorsese, The Last Waltz, Garth Hudson, Johnny Cash

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