

MIDWEST RECORD

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CHROME DREAMS

PETE SEEGER/Live at Mandel Hall 1957: There was another recent Pete Seeger live twofer from back in the day, but this baby from Mandel Hall at the U. of C. annual folk festival is the one that often gets spoken about in hushed tones. No matter what his politics were, Seeger really wanted to be a pop star as opposed to a game changer. The game he changed was that this was the seeds of the folk music explosion that cats like Kingston Trio were able to ride to glory and get the blame/credit for. Seeger's iconic performance is loaded with iconic songs and the pop music gods were smiling down on the proceeding. If you've never experienced the power of one man, one banjo and one stomping foot, these two discs are sure to be a real revelation. Timeless stuff that's older than your grandpa but somehow seems hipper even today. Check it out.

- CHRIS SPECTOR, Editor and Publisher