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FEATURES: SIGHTS & SOUNDS

Whew...

That, in a word, sums up the amazing onslaught of superb new video releases over the past couple of months as the music biz sharpens its sights on new DVD releases and probes more obscure artists for both vintage footage and original offerings. Consequently, even the most dedicated collector is served with a plethora of new releases that are beginning to rival their CD counterparts in terms of quantity and variety.

1966 World Tour (The Home Movies) (Highway Entertainment) takes an unusual backstage view of Bob Dylan's landmark UK visit, an occasion that found him shedding his acoustic guitar in deference to all-out rock 'n' roll revelry. Drummer Micky Jones documents it all via his 8mm color movie camera, providing previously unseen footage that takes the viewer into the limos and the dressing rooms for a candid, behind-the-scenes perspective. Interviews with Charlie Daniels, Johnny Rivers and Trini Lopez (!) more or less pad the proceedings, but there's real revelation in the narrative that uncovers Dylan's taunting exhortation to "Play fucking loud!" A Dylan cover band supplies the music, but nevertheless, the bard's barbs suggest this will become a much sought-after souvenir.

~ Lee Zimmerman