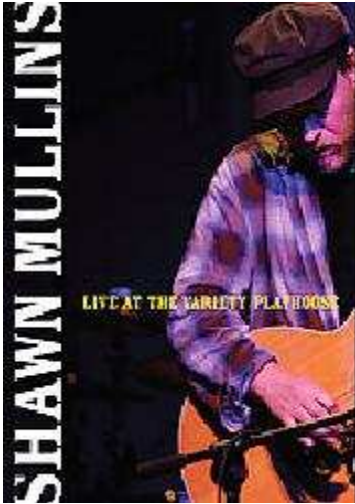


# TODAY'S COUNTRY MAGAZINE

TOMORROW'S COUNTRY...TODAY!

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## DVD REVIEW



Band: **SHAWN MULLINS**

Album: Live at the Variety Playhouse

Label: MVD Visual

Shawn Mullins found his way to mainstream pop/rock radio with his song “Lullaby” back in the 90’s, but Mullins has always been an artist that doesn’t really fit that mainstream mold. Rather, he walks that fine line between what is mainstream radio and what can be classified as left of the dial due to his Americana storytelling style. So, after that one big hit, he packed up into a van and continued to build a strong following with his live shows, coffee house tours, and switched labels from a major to a great independent label, Vanguard Record, which offered him freedom with his albums that an artist like Mullins needs. However, as stated above his live show solidified him the fan base and this DVD shows you perfectly just why that is. He returned to his hometown of Atlanta, GA and performed two sets at the famous “Variety Playhouse.” With the first set, Mullins, his acoustic guitar, and a single spotlight, take center stage and he turns the theatre into a coffee house as he plays his songs, jokes with the audience, and tells a few stories about the songs along the way. This set is a good look at the songwriter side of Mullins and also gives listeners a chance to hear some of his new songs because as he states, “if I don’t play new songs then I’d go crazy up here.” For the second set, he and his band comprised of an all-star lineup, take the stage and let loose. The second set is where

you will find the songs like singles, “Beautiful Wreck” and “Lullaby” as well as favorites from his catalog including “Shimmer,” “The Ballad of Kathryn Johnston,” and an outstanding version of “House of the Rising Sun.” This DVD offers a great look at one of the best song crafters of the current times doing what he does best; playing live.

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