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Odyssey & Oracle (Revisited)

by Zombies




(MVD; 121 minutes)

www.mvdb2b.com


BY JIM ALLEN

Even though The Zombies' 1968 baroque-pop masterpiece *Odyssey & Oracle* has long been hailed as one of the finest albums of the '60s, if not

Dec 09

 [Live at the Roxy / Indigo Girls](#)

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
 [Deep Sea Blues / Robert Mugge \(director\)](#)

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 [Blood the Last Vampire / Blood the Last Vampire](#)

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Oct 09

of all time, it's always seemed like some kind of semi-mythical beast. The Zombies, after all, had ceased to exist before it was even released, so it basically entered the world as the work of a ghost band. And of course, some of the tracks had that dreamlike, subtly spooky quality.

So seeing *Odessey* brought to life on its 40th anniversary by the original band for the first time, in front of an enraptured London audience, feels a little like a shock and a lot like a revelation. It turns out these brilliantly composed, masterfully arranged, passionately performed art-pop gems, part of the collective pop-culture consciousness for longer than many of their admirers have been alive, were made by living, breathing human beings!

The proof is right before your eyes and ears, as these flesh-and-blood sixtysomething Englishmen turn out note-for-note recreations of the original arrangements in all their harmony-laden, Mellotron-soaked glory. If *Sgt. Pepper* was the next evolutionary step after *Pet Sounds*, the third link in that chain is undoubtedly *Odessey* (it was even recorded at Abbey Road with the Beatles' engineers), and Rod Argent, Colin Blunstone and company sound considerably more spry than you'd think anyone their age reasonably should, as they bring the mythical beast to life in full, living color.

Bonus features: Excerpts from *Odessey & Oracle* documentary.



[That's What Happened: Live in Germany 1987 / Miles Davis](#)

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[Superman Batman: Public Enemies / Superman & Batman](#)

10/27/2009

[Live at the Isle of Wight 1970 / Leonard Cohen](#)

10/23/2009

[Fringe the Complete First Season / Fringe](#)

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[Smallville: The Complete Eighth Season / Smallville](#)

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[Heroes Season 3 / Heroes](#)
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[The Willie Nelson Special / Willie Nelson](#)

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[In Concert with the Danish National Concert Orchestra & Choir / Procol Harum](#)

09/18/2009

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[Let Me Put My Thoughts in You / Dana Gould](#)

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[Warpaint Live / Black Crowes](#)

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Aug 09

[Punk In London + Punk In England + Reggae In A Babylon / Various Artists](#)

08/28/2009

[Scott Walker: 30 Century Man / Scott Walker](#)

08/19/2009

[No One Said It Would Be Easy: A Film About Cloud Cult / Cloud Cult](#)

08/07/2009

Jul 09

[Live! In Concert / Reel Big Fish](#)

07/29/2009

[Live in Toronto / John](#)



 Twitter Updates

- Billboard publishes its 40 1-Hit Wonders of the decade - James Blunt, Hinder, etc. - so let's keep 'em that way. <http://tinyurl.com/ybkr42y> 14 minutes ago
- Speaking of David Rawlings, we also have exclusive photo gallery of him at Cat's Cradle last week: <http://blurt-online.com/news/view/3106/> 19 minutes ago
- Massive interview with David Rawlings, of the Dave Rawlings Machine, is our top of page feature: <http://blurt-online.com/features/view/513/> 19 minutes ago
 - Our look back at Beatles remasters, plus details on lawsuit EMI filed against a seller of Fab 4 MP3s <http://blurt-online.com/news/view/3105/> 20 minutes ago
- Blurt blogger Bryan Reed's latest "194 dB" hard/heavy music blog now up. This time: hardcore! <http://blurt-online.com/blogs/author/69/> about 2 hours ago

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[Lennon & the Plastic Ono Band](#)

07/10/2009



[Fillmore: The Last Days / Various Artists](#)

07/09/2009



[From Where He Came To Where He Went / Morrissey](#)

07/01/2009

Jun 09



[My Dinner With Jimi / Bill Fishman \(dir.\)](#)

06/24/2009



[Fillmore: The Last Days / Various Artists](#)

06/09/2009



[Backstage Passport / NOFX](#)
06/05/2009



[Bonnaroo 2008 Live! / Various Artists](#)

06/01/2009

May 09



[Live in London / Tinariwen](#)
05/26/2009



[Performing This Week... Live At Ronnie Scott's / Jeff Beck](#)

05/13/2009



[Ashes of American Flags / Wilco](#)

05/07/2009

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[Sleepwalking Through The Mekong / Dengue Fever](#)

04/24/2009



[Live in London / Leonard Cohen](#)

04/03/2009

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[Making of Electric Ladyland / Jimi Hendrix](#)

03/30/2009



[In The 1960's / Frank Zappa and the Mothers of Invention](#)

03/24/2009



[Joni Mitchell's The Fiddle and the Drum / Joni Mitchell](#)

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[From the Basement / Alberta Ballet Company](#)

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[From the Basement / Various Artists](#)

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[DJ Dusk's Root Down](#)

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[Sarah Silverman Program + Bush](#)

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[Live from Austin, TX / Merle Haggard](#)

Haggard

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[Live from Austin TX / Waylon Jennings](#)

Jennings

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[Christmas On Mars / Flaming Lips](#)

01/13/2009



[What We Do Is Secret / Germs](#)

01/07/2009

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[Live from Austin, Texas / Widespread Panic](#)

12/24/2008



[Punk Rock Karaoke / Punk Rock Karaoke](#)

12/18/2008



[The Best of Season 3 / Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour](#)

Hour

12/10/2008



[A Colbert Christmas: The Greatest Gift Of All / Stephen Colbert](#)

12/05/2008



[Live At The Astoria / Groundhogs](#)

12/03/2008

Nov 08



[Wild Combination: A Portrait of Arthur Russell / Arthur Russell](#)

11/24/2008



[The Mothership Connection Live 1976 / Parliament](#)

Funkadelic

11/06/2008



[All Together Now / Beatles/Cirque De Soleil](#)

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[Lou Reed's Berlin / Lou Reed](#)

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[There's Always Be An England / Sex Pistols](#)

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[Live at Montreux / Tori Amos](#)

10/16/2008



[Awake My Soul: The Story of the Sacred Harp / Matt & Erica Hinton](#)

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[Kraftwerk and the Electronic Revolution: A Documentary Film / Kraftwerk](#)

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[Silver Jew / Silver Jews](#)

09/18/2008



[Live at Babeville / Ani DiFranco](#)

09/16/2008

Aug 08



[Live From Austin TX / Norah Jones](#)

08/29/2008



[Jack in the Green: Live In Germany / Jethro Tull](#)

08/25/2008



[Ladies And Gentlemen, The Fabulous Stains / Fabulous Stains](#)

08/11/2008



[You Think You Really Know Me: The Gary Wilson Story / Gary Wilson](#)

08/01/2008

Jul 08



[Live From the Streets of New York / Willie Nile](#)

07/21/2008



[Love Story / Love](#)

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[Tendrils: A Video Document by Mia Ferm / Castanets](#)

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Boys: Halloween Night 1986
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Ears / Tad](#)

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