

The Zombies

★★★★

Odessey & Oracle Revisited: The 40th Anniversary Concert REDHOUSE.2

**Their classic 1968
swansong performed live
for the first time.**

For those at London's Shepherd's Bush Empire on March 8, 2008 it's a reminder of what unfolded that night. For the remainder, here's what you missed. From Al Kooper's heart-warming introduction of the four remaining original Zombies (guitarist Paul Atkinson died in 2004), through the perfect live premiere of *Odessey And Oracle* to the last exquisite notes of 1964 hit *She's Not There* as the encore closer, this DVD captures all. Recorded at Abbey Road, and released after the group had already split, *Odessey And Oracle* unceremoniously flopped but today no one disputes its reputation as a spectacular piece of baroque pop. And it sounds glorious here. Colin Blunstone never misses a note, his vocals vulnerable and emotion-filled on *Care Of Cell 44*, *A Rose For Emily* and *Hung Up On A Dream*; Chris White and Rod Argent delight with their layered harmonies; even the Victorian pedal organ wheeled on for *Butcher's Tale* deserves its ecstatic applause.

Jon Harrington

MOJO