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Family's ROGER CHAPMAN "Friends & Family"

With close to two hours of music, 19 pages of electronic images and text, and a brilliant interview with {Roger Chapman}, this solid collection from the U.K. {Angel Air} and America's {MVD} imprint is a valuable addition for fans of the British pioneer rocker. {Neil Young}'s "between the lines of age" prophecy is now reality and just as {The Korgis} {DVD Kollection} and {Starz} {Back In Action: Live 2003} display the mileage those artists have endured, {Chapman} carries on, though he looks more like Archie Bunker's blue collar brother or a distant relative of {Bachman Turner Overdrive} than an aging {Mick Jagger}, the rock star look having long faded away. But {Chapman} still has the pipes, as well as the attitude, and the sixteen selections - including eleven originals- certainly have the power. So this isn't someone merely holding on to a dream, the splendid mandolin on the {Bruce Springsteen}-ish {"Habit Of A Lifetime"} has him in a raspy sort of folk/{Joe Cocker} mode, continuing to present his craft to a loyal audience. Aply assisted by a perfect five piece band which includes {Steve Simpson}, {Ian Gibbons}, {Andy (Stewart) Hamilton}, {Gary Twigg} and {Henry Spinetti} - collectively known as {Short List} - they take {Bob Dylan}'s {"Blind Willie McTell"} to new heights. Like a rock and roll {George Foreman}, Chapman takes the variety of melodies and stretches them across the small stage at the {Newcastle Opera House}. The lengthy gig is all very contained - and the handy set list allows the viewer to pick and choose whichever title to watch with ease.

A pleasant listening experience with educational information on this interesting musical figure.