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THIS MONTH IN PRINT

Go West: Kings of Wishful Thinking Live

Contributed by Brent Simon

Wednesday, 01 February 2006



It's telling that these English-borr of radio-friendly white soul pop h name-drop their biggest Stateside very title of this concert disc rele end, though, *Go West: Kings of W Thinking Live* doesn't satisfy even nostalgic fix, so unduly propped u machines and synthesizers is this

which I would characterize as Tom Jones light if I didn't wish to avoid denigrating Jones.

A duo consisting chiefly of singer Peter Cox and knob twirler and multi-instrument; Richard Drummie, Go West also includes Greg Harewood on bass, Richard Brook on Lyndon Connah on keyboards and Dee Ral on guitar. The group's sound is a Brit-pop Human Nature, Roxette and a dozen other, more anonymous Billboard background late 1980s and early '90s, before first grunge and then rap came along and pimp-sl such music off the charts. If Ace of Base had a post-New Wave English counterpart be Go West.

A so-called career revival for Go West was sparked in 2003 when Cox appeared on popular British television show *Reborn in the USA* (we'll let the delicious irony of t the air for a moment), boasting a new composition and a 10-song parade of their b material. That led to other gigs, including the packed club concert captured here. show closer "The King of Wishful Thinking" are a few other tunes that *might* strike chord of remembrance, including "I Want to Hear it From You," "What You Won't Love," "Goodbye Girl," "All Day All Night," "Tracks of My Tears," "Call Me" and "Our Eyes." The latter song offers up probably the nadir of this disc's experience – embarrassingly un-ironic male chest shimmy ever.

While the 90-minute concert is nicely captured here, both visually and aurally (a D digital 2.0 stereo mix stands alongside a superb Dolby digital 5.1 surround sound m disc suffers from all sorts of menu navigation problems, making it difficult to retur top menu once you've selected set-up, special features, chapter stop or other opt: the other hand, *Go West: Kings of Wishful Thinking Live* does include an hour-long with Cox and Drummie, and though there's an awful lot of chronological chart talk eventually grows tiresome, this chat gives a comprehensive overview of the group, influences (Stevie Wonder and Bad Company's Paul Rogers both receive mad props working style. That is, if anyone out there cares... C- (Movie) C+ (Disc)

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