



by Ricky Flake

'Live at Iowa State University,' John Mayall's Bluesbreakers (MVDvisual, • **)**

This Sept. 2 DVD presents one of the many versions of a British band led by a blues legend. John Mayall is widely acknowledged as the father of British blues, introducing a generation of fans and musicians to that roots music; and, incubating a roster of talented guitarists (Eric Clapton, Peter Green, Mick Taylor) and other musicians who influenced the course of rock 'n' roll. His Bluesbreakers have had many lineups, but have always remained true to the blues vision their leader had at the time. This 1987 concert features Mayall (vocals, harmonica, organ and guitar) along with Walter Trout and Coco Montoya (guitars), Paul Hines (drums), and Bobby Haynes (bass).

Fiery solos by Trout are the biggest blast of guitar fireworks, but the now-legendary Montoya gets his share of the spotlight on "Room to Move."

Mayall's harmonica work is exemplary (especially on "It Ain't Right"), and he leads the band with enthusiastic aplomb. This DVD is great for blues fans. Get it locally or at www.mvd2b.com