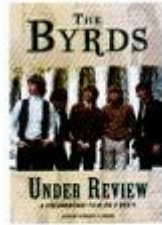


# ELMORE



## THE BYRDS

*Under Review* DVD

(MVD)

Like most well-scripted rock documentaries—and this is a documentary, not a concert film—*The Byrds: Under Review* gives

an all-encompassing history of the Byrds, all the way back to the roots of its most prominent members (mainly Roger McGuinn, Gene Clark and David Crosby), and not only how but why the members ended up together. *Under Review* presents a marvelous timeline of one of America's most endearing, influential (and underrated) bands.

Journalists, musicians, rock critics and former Byrds such as Crosby, Johnny Rogan,

Gene Parsons, Keith Richards, John York and Nigel Williamson contribute in-depth analysis and poignant discourse on the band's legacy. From the formation of the band to their use of studio musicians, its early releases, the pillaging of Bob Dylan's catalogue, the rotation of members, the impact of the Beatles and the British invasion, the evolution of the band's music (how and why), right through the final dissolution of the band, it is all here, warts and all. *Under Review* also explains the impact that the Byrds had on such artists as Tom Petty, the Pretenders, REM and the Smiths, and why the Byrds are responsible for the terms "country-rock" and "crossover" in the rock dictionary.

One glaring omission in *Under Review* is the absence of Roger McGuinn. I interviewed Roger years ago at a show that he and Gene Clark were putting on and asked him about the legacy of the Byrds. Then, he made no bones about the fact that he felt the Byrds were grossly underappreciated in rock history, and he was right. Why he didn't take this opportunity to help remedy that perception in what is an extremely good historical portrayal of the band is beyond me.

—Grip