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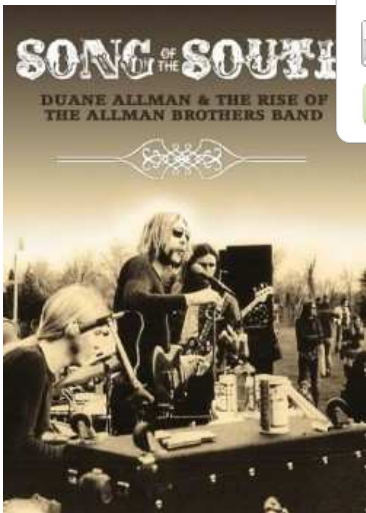
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Song Of The South Duane Allman And The Rise Of The Allman Brothers

By [Paul Barrel](#)
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Song Of The South

Duane Allman And The Rise Of The Allman Brothers (Sexy Intellectual)

A fair amount has been written about the late, great Duane Allman. Hell, there are musicians who have dedicated themselves to knowing everything about the visionary guitarist; whom some consider the greatest that ever lived. Yet, not much has ever been committed to video ... until now, which is quite amazing when you think about it.

This documentary leaves no stone uncovered as Allman’s life and career are examined and his talent and influence underscored. There is a dual track following Duane’s journey and also that of The Allman Brothers band.

Supported by childhood photos and testimonies from early associates, bandmates, producers/engineers, rock historians and biographers, the program follows Allman as he and his younger brother Gregg found a calling in the “black music” of the south and bounced from one band to another, including, at one point, the hilariously named Allman Joys, until they found the perfect line up that would become The Allman Brothers.

What you learn in this well-crafted doc is that Duane had a singular focus. From the people who knew and worked with him, all Duane wanted to do was create music and play guitar ... 8, 9, 10 hours a day. Before he found fame, and to pick up some extra cash, Duane was a session musician at the fabled Muscle Shoals recording studio and an early session had him backing Wilson Pickett; actually talking the big man into covering the Beatles’ “Hey Jude.” It was a good move for both gents and that recording brought Allman to the attention of Eric Clapton; who brought him in as a collaborator on the Derek and the Dominos project. You also learn how jazz and the great Miles Davis and John Coltrane had on his playing and arrangements and, when you take a step back, it all makes sense. From all accounts, Allman was voracious in his quest to his master his trade and, that makes sense too, as the highlights of his short career all happened all within a two

year period.

Then he was gone. His life taken tragically in a motorcycle accident at age 24 in 1971. Still, with only a few recordings to his name, his influence remains as relevant today as it did more than 40 years ago.

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