

Ry Cooder - Broadcast From The Plant (2013)

Written by bluesever

Thursday, 27 February 2014 16:46 -

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01. *Police Dog Blues* (3:53) 02. *F.D.R In Trinidad* (3:24) 03. *If Walls Could Talk* (4:02) 04. *Tamp 'em Up Solid* (3:48) 05. *Ax Sweet Mama* (4:11) 06. *Billy The Kid* (6:14) 07. *Vigilante Man* (5:06) 08. *How Can A Poor Man Stand Such Times And Live* (6:36) 09. *Tattler* (3:59) 10. *Comin' In On A Wing And A Prayer* (5:17) 11. *Alimony* (4:08) 12. *Teardrops Will Fall* (3:34) 13. *I'm A Pilgrim* (2:55) 1974 Record Plant, Sausalito, CA

I tried this after being rather disappointed with *Live In San Francisco* and I think it's a much better live album. It's from a radio broadcast in 1974 and it's excellent. The sound is clear and well balanced (as you'd expect from a recording made in a radio studio) with a small, enthusiastic and unintrusive audience. This means that you hear Ry Cooder and his small band playing live but in almost studio quality.

It's the playing which really matters, though, and it's first-rate. There's some superb guitar work from Cooder (of course) and the band are tight and solid with great backing vocals. There are fine versions of old favourites like *How Can A Poor Man Stand Such Times And Live* and *Vigilante Man* and plenty of others. I have to say that I'm not sure they really get the calypso of *FDR In Trinidad* right, but it's the only track which sounds at all weak to me.

I would warmly recommend this album. It's Ry Cooder at his best a lot of the time - and that's really saying something. --- Sid Nuncius, amazon.com

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