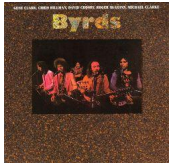


The Byrds - The Byrds (Reunion Album) [1973/1990]

Written by bluesever

Tuesday, 14 January 2014 16:57 - Last Updated Friday, 08 December 2017 22:54

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Side 1 1. "Full Circle" (Gene Clark) – 2:43 2. "Sweet Mary" (Roger McGuinn, Jacques Levy) – 2:55 3. "Changing Heart" (Gene Clark) – 2:42 4. "For Free" (Joni Mitchell) – 3:50 5. "Born to Rock 'n' Roll" (Roger McGuinn) – 3:12 Side 2 6. "Things Will Be Better" (Chris Hillman, Dallas Taylor) – 2:13 7. "Cowgirl in the Sand" (Neil Young) – 3:24 8. "Long Live the King" (David Crosby) – 2:17 9. "Borrowing Time" (Chris Hillman, Joe Lala) – 2:00 10. "Laughing" (David Crosby) – 5:38 11. "(See the Sky) About to Rain" (Neil Young) – 3:49

Musicians:

Roger McGuinn – guitar, banjo, Moog synthesizer, vocals Gene Clark - guitar, harmonica, tambourine, vocals David Crosby - guitar, vocals Chris Hillman – electric bass, guitar, mandolin, vocals Michael Clarke – drums, congas, percussion + Wilton Felder - electric bass on "Cowgirl in the Sand" Johnny Barbata - drums on "Cowgirl in the Sand" Dallas Taylor - congas, tambourine

In 1972, Roger McGuinn's final version of the Byrds unceremoniously broke up, but the following year the group briefly reunited -- surprisingly enough, with the classic original lineup of McGuinn, Gene Clark, Michael Clarke, David Crosby, and Chris Hillman. However, if most of the participants meant for this to be anything more than a one-shot get-together, you couldn't tell from listening to the resulting album; Byrds never sounds much like a Byrds album, absent McGuinn's chiming 12-string guitar and the group's striking harmonies (the Byrds' twin aural calling cards). Much of the original material, especially David Crosby's, sounds like cast-offs from their other projects. And what sort of a Byrds album features two Neil Young covers and not a single Bob Dylan tune? In all fairness, Byrds has its moments: Gene Clark's "Full Circle" and "Changing Heart" are great songs from the group's least-appreciated member, and McGuinn's "Born to Rock 'n' Roll" is a top-notch rock anthem. But for the most part, Byrds sounds like a competent but unexciting country-rock band going through their paces, rather than the work of one of the best and most innovative American bands of the 1960s. ---Mark Deming, Rovi

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