

Bobby Darin - Live from Las Vegas (Recorded Live at the Flamingo) [1963]

Written by bluesever

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1 Intro/Hello Young Lovers 2:04 2 Ace in the Hole 2:26 [play](#) 3 You're Nobody Till Somebody Loves You 3:25 4 Hits Medley: Splish Splash/Beyond The Sea/Artificial Flowers/Cleme ... 2:53 5 My Funny Valentine 3:54 6 I Walk the Line 1:37 7 18 Yellow Roses 2:40 [play](#) 8 Mack the Knife 3:31 9 Comedy Routine 9:32 10 Work Song 3:14 11 Michael Row the Boat Ashore 3:13 12 Mary Don't You Weep 3:13 13 I'm On My Way Great God 4:48 14 The Curtain Falls 5:43

This stellar nightclub performance, from November 11, 1963, somehow remained under wraps for nearly four decades. Thankfully, it was discovered and issued, first in 2000 by independent mail-order specialists Collectors' Choice Music, then in 2005 by Capitol as part of the Las Vegas Centennial Collection series. In addition to the unique qualities of an unheard vintage recording, Bobby Darin had also cited this run -- at the Flamingo Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas -- to be his last lengthy tour or nightclub engagement due to increasing health concerns. So, it is indeed a special affair. It was rare for a performer to be so accepted as both a sophisticated balladeer as well as a rebellious rocker. Live From Las Vegas reveals both sides of Darin's underappreciated talent of interpretation. Handling ballads such as "My Funny Valentine" and "You're Nobody 'Til Somebody Loves You" with sensitivity and control, Darin conversely rips open up-tempo numbers such as the "Hits Medley: Splish Splash/Beyond the Sea/Artificial Flowers/Clementine." Darin also swings through a spellbinding version of his trademark, "Mack the Knife." This in no way sounds like a man suffering from a rheumatic heart condition. In addition to the music, Darin offers up several spoken word interludes. The aptly titled "Comedy Routine" features several impersonations by Darin as set to "One for My Baby (And One More for the Road)." However, when introducing the closer, "The Curtain Falls," Darin is somber, leading to an emotional climax -- not only for this performance, but for a brilliant live career as well. There is little information given in the liner note text regarding the brilliant orchestra heard accompanying Darin during this run. However, their efforts are noted by the star and rightfully so, as they swing right along with him -- never overpowering, but infinitely enhancing, underscoring, and punctuating the proceedings. ---Lindsay Planer, All Music Guide

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