

# **DICK'S PICKS**

# GRATEFUL DEAD

## **SELLING POINTS:**

- Dick's Picks Vol. 8 Presents the Most Famous Bootlegged Live Show in Dead History, the May 2, 1970 Concert at Harpur College in Binghamton, NY
- The First Set on CD One Is Probably the Band's Finest Acoustic Set, Featuring Beautifully Played and Sung Material from the As-Yet-To-Be-Released Workingman's Dead Album
- Sets Two & Three Are Among the Most Soaring Electric Performances in the Band's Long History
- Includes a Mind-Melting "The Other One"
   Sandwiched in a Medley with "St. Stephen,"
   "Cryptical Envelopment," "Drums" and "Cosmic Charlie"
- Also Features Pigpen on James Brown's "It's a Man's World" and Two of the Most Psychedelic Versions of "Good Lovin'" and "Dancing in the Streets" Ever Played
- Winds Up with a Multi-Crescendo Take on "Viola Lee Blues" and an Extra-Long Take of "We Bid You Goodnight"
- Out of Print for Years
- No Dead Collection Is Complete Without Dick's Picks Vol. 8

STREET DATE: April 28, 2015 LABEL: Real Gone Music

GENRE: Rock FORMAT: CD

RAZOR & TIE.

"Dick" was Dick Latvala, the official tape archivist for the Grateful Dead until 1999, whose inspiration and encyclopedic knowledge of the band's vaults spawned the fabled Dick's Picks series of live Dead concert recordings. Comprised of 36 volumes, Dick's Picks follows the band on its long, strange trip through a multitude of eras, tours and venues, featuring handpicked shows that display the band at its visionary, improvisational height. Now, Real Gone Music is finally bringing this unparalleled cache of Dead concert brilliance to record stores—many of these volumes have never been available at music retail, and the others have been unavailable for close to a decade!

# GRATEFUL DEAD: Dick's Picks Vol. 8—Harpur College, Binghamton, NY May 2, 1970 (3-CD Set)

If there were a college course taught on Grateful Dead bootlegs (and if there isn't one, there should be!), the concert preserved on *Dick's Picks Vol. 8* would occupy a prominent place on the syllabus. That's because this evening at tiny Harpur College in upstate New York was for years probably the most highly touted and sought-after single show on the tapers' circuit (Jerry Garcia himself later singled it out as a memorable performance); and it appears here, complete save for one song, on this 3-CD

set. The first disc offers one of the most beguiling acoustic sets the Dead ever performed, full of gems ("Dire Wolf," "Black Peter," "Uncle John's Band") from the already-recorded-but-not-yet-released Workingman's Dead, plus a passel of old folk and blues tunes highlighted by a beautiful, slow-burning version of "I Know You Rider," it's doubtful the band ever harmonized as beautifully as they do here, and the off-the-cuff atmosphere is simply charming. Discs two and three present the (very) electric Dead at their most probing, with a healthy dollop of greasy soul 'n' blues served up by Pigpen; highlighted by Garcia's guitar and Phil Lesh's bass spiraling ever upward in a lengthy solo section, the version of "The Other One" in the 40-minute medley that opens the second set is unsurpassed, and the third set's "Viola Lee Blues" sports not one, not two, but three mind-warping crescendos, while their version of the rarely-performed James Brown tune "It's a Man's World" is as gritty and gutbucket as the band got. The closing "We Bid You Goodnight" is twice as long as usual because the delirious crowd wouldn't let them go—out of print for years and a must for any self-respecting Dead library.

### Songs:

### Disc One Set One

- 1. Don't Ease Me In
- 2. I Know You Rider
- 3. Friend of the Devil
- 4. Dire Wolf
- 5. Beat It On Down the Line
- 6. Black Peter
- 7. Candyman
- 8. Cumberland Blues
- 9. Deep Elem Blues
- 10. Cold Jordan
- 11. Uncle John's Band

# Disc Two

- 1. St. Stephen
- 2. Cryptical Envelopment
- 3. Drums
- 4. The Other One
- 5. Cryptical Envelopment
- 6. Cosmic Charlie
- 7. Casey Jones
- 8. Good Lovin'

### Disc Three Set Two cont.

- 1. It's a Man's World
- 2. Dancing in the Streets

### Set Three

- 1. Morning Dew
- 2. Viola Lee Blues
- 3. We Bid You Goodnight



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GRATEFUL DEAD: Dick's Picks Vol. 33–10/9 & 10/10/76, Oakland Coliseum Stadium, Oakland, CA (4-CD Set)

Fresh from a year-and-a-half touring hiatus, and back to full, two-drummer strength, the Dead opened for The Who as part of Bill Graham's historic Day on the Green concerts in 1976. This 4-disc set—which is among the cleanest soundboard recordings in the entire series—captures both dates in their entirety, and features one of the most monumental medleys (and that's sayin' something!) in band history with a 60-minute, 10-song journey through St. Stephen/Not Fade Away/St. Stephen/Help on the Way/Slipknotl/Drums/Samson and Delilah/Slipknotl/Franklin's Tower/One More Saturday Night. Back in print for a limited time!

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