My Chicago shows review Posted by stackalee - 2023/10/13 22:41 _____________________________________ Traffic was a total nightmare going up on saturday. We were walking in at 800 and the ticket takers said 1 min til showtime. We heard the opening to born in Chicago while walking up the stairs to the loge. i dont know if he walked out to any classical music, but he definitely did not on sunday. Sound was very bass and drum heavy in the theatre. Definitely a nice change from river flow. Doug was on acoustic, which he remained on for every song except key west and serve somebody. He was virtually inaudible. Even when Stu was on the acoustic you could hear him strumming for the most part. Most likely hasn't changed too much since I last saw him in 21. The new arrangement on multitudes is ok, but it was one of the highlights last time and one of the last times he did a full song center stage without an instrument. False prophet was one of the best of the night. However, bob seemed to be more shouting than singing like the last few times I saw him. The band seems louder than it has been a quite a while. Certainly Jerry seems to be more in Winston Watson style than the last two, but with his Americana playing the country songs still swing. Masterpiece starts out close to the 2018-19 arrangement then the band comes in to play the shadow kingdom arrangement. Bob piano playing was very rudimentary on the first night. My wife said he banged on the keys like a 2 year old. She isn't a big fan, but I still love her. Black rider has an echo towards the end like thin man had for many years. The cock line had no response, which got a big cheer 2 years ago. My version of you went from eerie and gothic to now being crazy and gleeful in what the narrator is doing. Baby tonight is basically 3 separate songs, bob solo on the piano, then the band does a rock middle section, then a slower bluesish ending. Rubicon still doesn't have the riff from the album but for some reason made me think of a very slow early Roman kings, the song it replaced in this set. To be alone with you had a different drum part, but sounds very poppy. Key west seems to be the one song from the album that has the most arrangements. Shame since the first one was the best (milwaukee) and the second was the next best (chicago). Shame since bobs vocal was very good. Serve somebody has lost a lot of the power it had in 2018 to 2021. It lost the plot last year and while better, I would think it would be the one to be replaced first if he does change anything. Made up my mind saw him still hitting the high notes, but not as easily as 2021. Truckin got the biggest cheer of the night. Can't say if it was because of the dead fans, or because it meant no black magic. Bob Britt played a solo, or what passes as a solo these days...about 8 seconds. Mother of muses is my least favorite song on rarw, but live it is much better. I think jerry is on mallets for this. Intros with Tony getting a huge cheer and bob saying "Tony has a lot of fans here" and then introducing him again to another loud cheer. Jimmy reed with a different arrangement as well. Every grain same as it has been for this tour, I haven't gotten for 14 years. Missing the harp solo. Killing floor rapped it up with some chess style blues, which the crowd ate up. I figured out the song when he sang killing floor. The riff that was played made me think he was playing junior wells messing with the kid. Overall, I would give it an 7.5 out of 10. As I said, sound mix a little off with bass and drums, piano playing almost discordant at times, and some arrangements not being an improvement. A very short review of Sunday will follow == Re:My Chicago shows review Posted by Derek - 2023/10/14 01:07 _____________________________________ Thanks for such a detailed review! Given the setlists seem to have returned to static it looks like you grabbed the tour at the right time! Posted by stackalee - 2023/10/17 19:59 No classical music for the Sunday night show. Band started River flow and bob walked out 5 to 10 seconds later. The main guitar riff from 2021 is mostly replaced by bob plinking on the piano. His singing was less shouty than saturday, more on the point. His piano playing was also less adventurous than saturday. In 2021 I preferred the early shows for that reason, but they seemed like a band more than just bob and his band if you know what I mean. False prophet was a highlight on night 2, as was every grain. Bob was flipping through his sheets looking for something with one hand, playing the piano with the other and giving one of the best vocals or this leg. With no song 18, I wonder if he planned something, then decided against it when he couldn't find what he was looking for. The only thing that could have made it better was the harp, which has come back after chicago. Really the only issue was that old black magic. Nice that I got it for the first time, but not a song I would want. Only spirit on the water would have been worse. Funny that he seems to love playing it so much after dropping it in 2017. Walking out seemed to be the last time I would see him. I thought about catching the 1st Indy show, but didnt. I would have loved to see the mellencamp cover. It is a residency requirement that to live in Indiana, you must like him. Even in northwest indiana. With the touring patterns and the rumors of retiring, I have come to terms with this being it. Would still love another album and tour in 2025 to 2028 I would give this show an 8 out of 10. Solid. ==
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