

At long last, my search is over. I've been searching for the soundboard copy of this show for 21 years. Back in the summer of 1978, my cousin gave me a cassette copy of the Dead's Iowa 2/5/78 show. I brought home the tape of the 2nd set put on a pair of headphones, and my life was changed forever. I was already a 'deadhead', and I'd been collecting a few live music recordings here & there on my 8-track recorder, but this was the first Grateful Dead live tape that I'd had a chance to hear. While "Scarlet Begonias" was my favorite Dead song, I'd never heard it played live, and "Fire On The Mountain" was completely new to me. For twenty-five minutes, I was completely blown away by these absolutely incredible versions. I copied about 30 of my cousin's Dead tapes, and brought them with me to school. When I got back to Brown in September '78, I played "IOWA" for my roommate and several close friends during the first week of the school year. Over the course of the fall semester, we lived on a heavy dose of Dead bootlegs, and IOWA was clearly the most requested show on my wall of 30 tapes. I went on to increase my collection of live cassette tapes from my initial 30 to somewhere over 3500 Dead & Non-Dead live cassette recordings before I made the switch to DAT and CDs in 1998.

To this day, I have never heard a better version of Scarlet Begonias/Fire On The Mountain. This show still touches a nerve for me the same way it did 21 years ago. I really can't say enough about how I feel about this show, but I'll tell you this: If I had to be stranded on a desert island, and I had my choice of one tape from my collection of 3500+ live tapes, IOWA's the one I'd want to have with me.

This was the first Grateful Dead "bootleg" recording that I ever listened to, and after all the other recordings I've listened to, I still feel that this show (particularly the 2nd set) is most representative of the Dead's X-Chemistry. My original copy of the show was fairly raw sounding, as the UNI Dome is not a building known for its fine acoustics. I've asked every person I ever traded tapes with over the last 21 years if they had or knew of a soundboard recording for this show. For 21 years, I was constantly told, "the show is not in the vault, there is no soundboard of that show, period". Early this year, a bunch of new Dead recordings suddenly appeared on the scene, and 2/5/78 was included in this new batch. Thanks to Caleb & John for being the first to get the tape into my hands. Everybody that knows me knows how much I love this show and how hard I've been trying to get the soundboard tape that you now have in your hand. If you're not familiar with this show, I'd suggest that you skip right to disc 2, and cue up the Scarlet Begonias/Fire On The Mountain jam. This is as good as it gets. I know you'll agree!

On the end of the third disc, I filled out the empty space with a tape of the Dead's first run-through of "So Many Roads" from studio outtakes from the Dead's unfinished final album. If you listen closely, you can hear Garcia teaching the band the new song, and then the band runs through the first takes of this song. At the end of the first takes, the band seemed genuinely blown away by how the song was coming together. Creative genius at work. It's an amazing example of what made the Grateful Dead so great! Enjoy this CD. Larry Fox LarryFox@rapidbsi.com

Grateful Dead 2-5-78



UNI Dome, Cedar Falls, Iowa

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Set I:

1. Bertha [6:22] >
2. Good Lovin' [5:35]
3. Brown-Eyed Women [5:50]
4. El Paso [4:15]
5. Tennessee Jed [8:23]
6. Sunrise [3:45]
7. Minglewood Blues [5:17]
8. Friend of the Devil [8:21]
9. Passenger [5:11]
10. Deal [6:33]

Set II:

1. Samson & Delilah [10:59]
2. Scarlet Begonias [12:31] >
3. Fire on the Mountain [16:13]

1. Truckin' [8:17] >
2. Drums [1:59] >
3. The Other One [8:59] >
4. Wharf Rat [8:54] >
5. Around & Around [8:04]

Encore:

6. U.S. Blues [5:17]

SOUNDBOARD

Master Reel->PCM->Cassette->DAT

plus 2/21/92 Club Front
San Rafael, CA (Studio)
SO MANY ROADS



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