



Bob Dylan Blonde on Blonde on Numbered Limited Edition 180g 45RPM 4LP Box Set from Mobile Fidelity

“That Thin, That Wild Mercury Sound:” Dylan’s Ground-Shaking 1966 Double LP Sent Tremors Throughout the World

Wider Grooves, Superior Sound: Mobile Fidelity’s 45RPM Edition The Last Word in Analog Fidelity

Recorded With One of Most Ear-Awakening Lineups Ever Assembled: Al Kooper, “Pig” Robbins, Joe South, Kenny Buttrey, and The Band’s Rick Danko and Robbie Robertson Among Musicians

Vaudeville, Contemporary Pop, Fiery Rock and Roll, Memphis Blues, Folk-Derived Sagas Among Enriched Palette of Styles

Ranked 9 on Rolling Stone’s List of the 500 Greatest Albums of All Time

The Freewheelin’ Bob Dylan, Another Side of Bob Dylan, Bringing It All Back Home, Blood on the Tracks, and The Basement Tapes Also Available from Mobile Fidelity

Blonde on Blonde: A double album that transcends time, defies space, suspends reality, and looks through the human soul and tells the listener characteristics about themselves they didn’t know. Professor Sean Wilentz, historian-in-residence for Bob Dylan’s Web site, comes as close to summing up its brilliance in his superb Bob Dylan In America as any who’ve tried: “The songs are rich meditations on desire, frailty, promises, boredom, hurt, envy, connections, missed connections, paranoia, and transcendent beauty—in short, the lures and snare of love, stock themes of rock and pop music, but written with a powerful literary imagination and played out in a pop netherworld.” No lie.

As part of its Bob Dylan catalog restoration series, Mobile Fidelity is thoroughly humbled to have the privilege of mastering the iconic LP from the original master tapes and pressing it

on 45RPM LPs at RTI. The end result is the very finest, most transparent analog edition of *Blonde on Blonde* ever produced. Forever renowned for what the Bard deemed “that thin, that wild mercury sound,” the album’s famed aural character lives and breathes on this superb version, with wider and deeper grooves affording playback of previously buried information and lifelike presentation of the studio sessions.

Forever prized for a unique sound that cultural critic Greil Marcus tagged “the most glamorous record imaginable; listening you [can] see the checkered jester’s suit Dylan had worn on stage for the nine previous, furious months,” *Blonde on Blonde* is to music, production, prose, and performance as what hydrogen is to water. The secret to its inimitable aural character partially stems from Dylan’s request in Nashville to producer Bob Johnston to remove the baffles from the studio room, allowing the musicians to interact as well as the music to assume a more organic quality that drifts from one microphone to another. Mobile Fidelity’s reissue captures this ensemble ambience, with echoes, resonance, and some of the most natural timbres you’ll ever hear in plain sight.

The story of *Blonde on Blonde* is almost as compelling as the music within. Dylan, frustrated with how initial attempts fared in New York, relocating to Tennessee and pairing with Nashville’s top session players as well as members of what would become the Band, feverishly chasing perfectionism while also arriving at an on-the-fly feel that remains a reference point for recorded music. The Bard sweated over lyrics, demanded his band get the exact sounds he heard in his head, and limited most takes to a handful at most. A majority of songs were recorded long after midnight, the post-A.M. vibe reflected in the nocturnal aura, woozy optimism, inversion of intervals, and spiritual soulfulness of the playing.

As for the tunes? Chapters of books and lengthy theses are dedicated to the sheer conscious-altering power, mythical weight, character cast, and convention-obscuring magnetism of the lyrics—to say nothing of the sophisticated albeit pure playing within, as arrangements touch upon gospel, R&B, pop, traditional and contemporary blues, vaudeville, folk, and more. Then there’s Dylan’s inventive phrasing, his manipulation of pitch and locution, helping the narratives to take on epic, inchoate, and cryptic meanings that continue to be deciphered to this day. Punch lines occur as frequently as romantic declarations, all delivered with salient references, traditional parallels, and elusive interpretations on par with those of Shakespeare.

“Visions of Johanna.” “I Want You.” “Rainy Day Women #12 & 35.” “Sad Eyed Lady of the Lowlands.” “Absolutely Sweet Marie.” We could go on. “Essential” doesn’t even begin to cover the genius of this record that, now, sounds better than Dylan himself can imagine.

Bob Dylan *Blonde on Blonde* Track Listing:

1. Rainy Day Women #12 & 35
2. Pledging My Time
3. Visions of Johanna

4. One of Must Know (Sooner or Later)
5. I Want You
6. Stuck Inside of Mobile With the Memphis Blues Again
7. Leopard-Skin Pill-Box Hat
8. Just Like a Woman
9. Most Likely You Go Your Way (And I'll Go Mine)
10. Temporary Like Achilles
11. Absolutely Sweet Marie
12. 4th Time Around
13. Obviously 5 Believers
14. Sad Eyed Lady of the Lowlands