



'Changes,' Buddy Miles (Charly/MVDvisual,*)**

This July 8 DVD features two Buddy Miles concerts plus nifty extras from 1995 and 1996. Miles, who passed away Feb. 26, is best known as the drummer for Jimi Hendrix's short-lived Band of Gypsys; but he had a long and distinguished career. His other famous project was Electric Flag, who played two Monterey Pop Festivals and released two albums before splintering. Buddy formed the Buddy Miles Express at that point, and did some sessions for Jimi's Electric Ladyland album. Not only that, but he also provided the vocals for the California Raisins.

In the first show, filmed in Switzerland, Buddy leads his trio through a selection of rock/pop/soul songs from the '60s and '70s. The cameraman seems confused, but the hits just keep on coming: "Knock on Wood," "Superstition" and more.

Buddy's vocals and drumming are tight and powerful; but his sidemen sometimes use inappropriate sonic stuff, particularly on his tribute medley of Hendrix hits. Concert two's "Born Under a Bad Sign," with Buddy playing a left-handed Strat is preferable.

Get your copy at mvdvisual.com if you can't find one nearby.

- Ricky Flake