

## SONG OF THE DAY LXXXVI

This may go down as one of the shortest SOTD's yet. Not because the song isn't worthy of being written about, it certainly is. But mainly because the song is another instrumental and the song is so short on record.

Of course I am talking about "Bron-Yr-Aur," Jimmy's acoustic, quasi-classical piece from "Physical Graffiti," LP two, side three, track two, clocking in at a mere 2:06.

Named after the cottage where Robert suggested they retreat to in order to get away from everything and focus on writing for their third album, this is about as beautiful as it gets.

Jimmy utilizes an open C6 tuning for this piece, and for you guitar novices out there, you tune your guitar, from low to high, like this: C-A-C-G-C-E

It is another in a long line of Page compositions that is just so enjoyable to play. It's a bit difficult to learn if you aren't used to playing classical guitar, as it requires a lot of finger picking to accurately perform it, but it is certainly worth the effort to get your skill to the needed requirement because this is a song that everyone loves.

I remember being 14 and having a Led Zeppelin poster on my wall and my dad walked in my room, looked at the poster and just gave me that look. You know the look - that look that asks: What are you doing with this crap?

I simply told my dad to hold on, pulled out my "Physical Graffiti" album and played this song. I could see his "impression" changing as the song played.

I've also played this at weddings where I was to play prior to the wedding and one couple had me play it during their Unity Candle Lighting moment. It is a song that can be played in any environment to any group of people and it is always very well received.

If you play guitar and are not familiar with this C6 tuning, my suggestion to you is to get started immediately. I have written a number of songs in this tuning and there are so many beautiful sounds that you can get out of your guitar with this tuning that you cannot get when the guitar is tuned regularly.

They say, in real estate, that the three most important things are: Location - Location - Location. And the same can be said about the placement of songs on an album. And side three of "Physical Graffiti" is just pure perfection.

"In The Light" - "Bron-Yr-Aur" - "Down By The Seaside" - "Ten Years Gone." My God man... that's some amazing music and "Bron-Yr-Aur" fits so perfectly between "In The Light" and "Down By The Seaside" that it's almost too good to be true.

The piece itself has so many beautiful sections and certain notes that ring out that one might be inclined to believe that Jimmy is using overdubbed guitars here; he isn't. It is just an example of a beautifully written song and Page playing it with a passion that pulls you in and fills your soul with something that is quite virtuous.

The closing is another stunning section as Page retards the final few notes that are picked and then strums that final chord and it just rings out like an echo drifting through a wide canyon. It is, in a word, epic.

Sadly, Jimmy only performed this during Zeppelin's sixth US tour in 1970 and is on the "Blueberry Hill" bootleg. Why Jimmy didn't dust this off for the "Unledded" project or play it on his Outrider Tour is beyond me, because it is too beautiful to have gone over 40 years since being performed live.

Until the next time,

Jeff