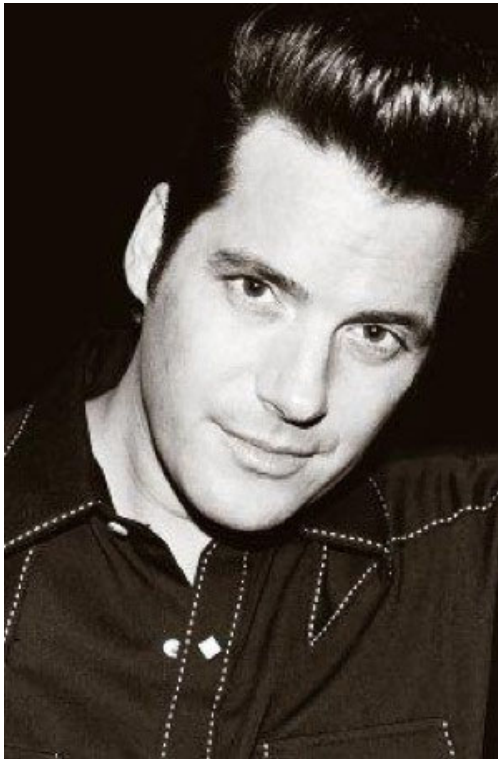




## **Robby Vee-Liquid Love**

Submitted by Will Munn on Tue, 04/10/2007 - 15:24.



Ok let's get the family link out of the way so we can concentrate on Robby's album. Robby was born Robert Brian Velline, son of the great Bobby Vee, as a youngster he grew up listening to rock'n'roll thanks to his Dad's great record collection. Robby learnt to play guitar from a young age and went on to form The Vees with his two older brothers going, the band backed Bobby on a number of tours through various different countries and this allowed the group to meet and work with the likes of Paul McCartney, Ronnie Wood and Sir Andrew Llyod Weather among many others. The band played the UK several times over, playing all the prestigious venues along the way including the likes of the London Palladium among others.

Since then Robby has revisited the UK as a solo performer on a few occasions as well as performing countless concerts in the US. He released his debut album, Bop a few years ago as well as appearing on the latest Crickets album, Crickets Buddies alongside the likes of Waylon Jennings and Eric Clapton among others. Liquid Love is his second album.

Liquid Love is Robby's second album and though he does nod at the work of his Father, Robby proves to be very much his own man, his mixture of energetic rockabilly, country and good old fashioned rock'n'roll is simply a superb listen from start to finish.

The album opens with Satellite, a track that opens with a few programmed beats and a brief spoken word sample before developing into a gorgeous country tinged soft rocker complete with a wonderful crooned vocal, a nice line in slide guitar and a deliciously infectious chorus that'll have you humming along after the very first listen.

Heart Of Steel continues the mellow country groove with Robby delivering another delicate yet heartfelt vocal that oozes with emotion whilst his guitar playing is a masterful mix of slide and finger picked notes that's simply a joy to behold.

Martini Love is a complete contrast to the preceding tracks on the album, Robby welds together fuzzy stabbing guitar to a simplistic piano riff, adds a few distorted vocals alongside his usual clean croon and creates a stomping, modern tale that drips with lust and sexual tension, it's the kind of track that you could imagine Prince writing, it's a brilliantly funky track that showcases a completely different side to Robby.

Jerry Lee (A Toast to...) is a lovely ode to the rock and roll great, it opens with a crowd chanting Jerry Lee's name before developing into a brilliant rockabilly number with a nice line surf guitar, obligatory piano and a delightfully tongue in cheek vocal that sums up Mr Lewis just perfectly.

Elsewhere M1 is a classic finger clicking, harmonica wielding rockabilly track that'll have you up on your feet bopping for all your worth. Left Out is a superb blues based number that see's Robby showcase his incredible guitar playing ability whilst unleashing a wonderfully raw, rootsy and passionate vocal. Covered In Bruises see's is another track in the same vein as Martini Love, he embraces an electronic influence which he uses to underpin a funky riff laden number that simply throbs and pulsates from the speakers.

Another unexpected highlight is a dazzling cover version of Def Leppard's Pour Some Sugar On Me, in Robby Vee's hands the song is a stunning raw rock number complete with aching vocals, wailing harmonica and simply mesmeric guitar work that has to be heard to be believed, he manages to make the rock classic his own.

Robby completes the CD with a couple of bonus tracks, one of which, Champagne Lane, is worth the price of the album alone, it's a brilliant driving number that's perfect for turning up really loud, jumping in your car and heading down the freeway (yes I know we're not in America but I'm sure you understand the imagery), it's a ball out rocker with a killer chorus and hard hitting grungy guitars that in a just world would be a household classic.

Liquid Love is a wonderfully diverse collection of mellow, upbeat and funky songs that effortlessly cross genres and mix and match influences to create a fantastic album from beginning to end. Bobby should not be the only Vee in your collection this is a must have.

Rhythm & Booze Rating 10