



FIRST WE TAKE MANHATTAN, REVISITED: Columbia recording artist Leonard Cohen visited New York City for shows at the Ritz and Carnegie Hall -- and was greeted after the sold-out Carnegie concert by Suzanne Vega, the '80s folk heroine who bears the first name of his most famous song. (Photograph: Nick Elgar) The New York dates were followed by shows at the Wiltern Theatre in Los Angeles and Zellerbach Auditorium in Berkeley. Cohen tours in support of his new album, I'M YOUR MAN, featuring the song that has created a sensation at all formats of radio and in the video dance clubs, "First We Take Manhattan."

"If ever there is an award for emotional laureate of the pop world," wrote Ira Mayer in the New York Post, "Leonard Cohen will be the uncontested winner. At his Carnegie Hall concert... he gave vent -- magnificently -- to all the doubts, fears, longings, memories, and regrets that comprise love in the twentieth century."

The U.S. shows came at the end of a three and a half-month sold-out tour of Europe, where cumulative sales of I'M YOUR MAN have topped 700,000 units. The LP has been certified gold in Sweden; and platinum in Spain and Norway -- where it spent no less than 16 weeks at #1. A BBC "Omnibus" tv special (filmed in Greece, Royal Albert Hall in London, and in New York City) was broadcast in the U.K. last month, spurring top 50 album sales and leading to silver certification there. After a trip home to Montreal, Leonard Cohen returns to North America later this year for an extended tour (dates to be announced).

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LEONARD COHEN



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