

May 17, 1994

LEONARD COHEN CONCERT ALBUM DUE IN-STORES JUNE 28 "Cohen Live" Features Classic Songs From Pre-eminent Singer/Songwriter

Columbia Records is releasing <u>COHEN LIVE - Leonard Cohen In Concert</u>, the Canadian singer-songwriter's first release since 1992's <u>The Future</u>. The album features 13 classic songs from a catalog spanning three decades: "Dance Me To The End Of Love," "Bird On The Wire," "Everybody Knows," "Joan Of Arc," "There Is A War," "Sisters Of Mercy," "Hallelujah," "I'm Your Man," "Who By Fire," "One Of Us Cannot Be Wrong," "If It Be Your Will," "Heart With No Companion," and "Suzanne."

<u>COHEN LIVE</u> was recorded during the singer's 1988 and 1993 concert tours and features performances from Austin City Limits, Toronto, Vancouver, San Sebastion, and Amsterdam. According to Cohen: "These are good performances of decent songs and the best we could find culled from 200 concerts."

The New York Times, covering one of Cohen's 1993 performances, cited the remarkable consistency of Cohen's nearly 30 years of songwriting, pointing to his "stately, imagistic songs with zingers every few lines." In concert, "romance and religiosity are intertwined....For Mr. Cohen, the concert is a somber ritual, not to be broken even by obstreperous audiences....There was no pretension in Mr. Cohen's concert....the music, though unhurried, held genuine melodies, and Mr. Cohen's lyrics rarely made a false move....his grave voice, beyond the possibility of sweetening or credulity, is their best vehicle."

The Los Angeles Times noted the infrequency of Cohen's live shows caused them to "take on the air of a pilgrimage, with the faithful approaching him more as a spiritual leader than a mere musician....the remarkable thing about Monday's concert at the Wiltern Theatre was that Cohen, nearing 60 and 25 years after his first album, offered not only the expected satisfying ritual, but also an element of vital, restless artistic movement....his often brutal, bruising encounters with the soul's scariest corners have touched a nerve in the vanguard of the post-punk crowd."

Three songs from Leonard Cohen's <u>The Future</u> -- "The Future," "Waiting For The Miracle," and "Anthem" -- can be heard on the soundtrack album for <u>Natural Born Killers</u> (directed by Oliver Stone and written by Quentin Tarantino)...one of the most highly-anticipated movies in recent years.

COHEN LIVE -- Leonard Cohen In Concert is due in-stores June 28.

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