Jim Carroll: “People Who Died” Singer, Poet Dead at 59

Karen, 09.14.09, 02:02pm
Posted in: News

Hello there! If you are new here, you might want to subscribe to the RSS feed for updates on this topic.

1
digg

digg it
A respected underground writer, poet and musician for decades, Jim Carroll gained widespread mainstream attention when Leonardo Di Caprio starred in 1995’s *The Basketball Diaries*, a film based on Carroll’s 1978 autobiography detailing his turbulent teenage years and struggles with drug abuse growing up.

A fixture of Andy Warhol’s legendary ’70s art scene, Carroll formed the punky Jim Carroll Band and scored a minor hit with his 1980 single “People Who Died.” Largely an cult hit, the song is essentially a list of people who died and how juxtaposed against strangely upbeat music.

In 1994, Carroll penned a moving tribute to a fallen star in the form of “8 Fragments for Kurt Cobain,” a poem which declares, “Genius is not a generous thing/ In return it charges more interest than any amount of royalties can cover.”

While his musical collaborations with the likes of Sonic Youth and Patti Smith are noteworthy, Carroll’s lasting achievement remains his ability to blend high and low art by intertwining the worlds of underground art, poetry, literature and punk/rock music.

Carroll passed away September 11, 2009 of a heart attack at his New York home. He was 59.

**MORE Music News:**

**QUIZ:** Daily Music Quiz: Roger Daltry and Jack Kerouac’s Brother  
**SCANDAL:** Courtney Love to Sue Guitar Hero 5: “I Loathe it and Kurt Would, Too”  
**GAMES:** Kurt Cobain Sings Bon Jovi? Courtney Love Sucks.  
**TOUR:** Reunion Alert: Iggy and the Stooges Reunion Concerts

**BELOW:** Jim Carroll Band’s 1980 hit, “People Who Died.”
Relevant Tags: Jim Carroll, Kurt Cobain, Movie Soundtracks, NYC, poetry, rip, Sonic Youth


Comments

1. Daily Music Quiz: Punks, Republicans and Chimps | Music Vixen Blog says...

09.15.09 3:30 pm

Reply

[...] week punk poet Jim Carroll (of “People Who Died” fame) passed away at age [...]
New Carly Simon CD: “I’m going to do what Elvis should have”

‘80s Rock Star Taking It All Off on TV

Guns n’ Roses Deny Song Theft, Face $1 Million Lawsuit.

Halloween Treats: New Kiss CD, Kiss M&Ms Candy and More

Gloria Estefan Buys 2,000 Tickets for Own Concert in Puerto Rico

Poetry Publishing Guide
Get Your Poetry Publishing Guide Mailed To Your doorstep At No Cost
www.Xlibris.com/PublishPoetry

Workers' Comp. Insurance
Get Workers' Compensation Quotes from Nationwide Carriers & More.
www.business.com

Terms & Conditions | Privacy Policy | About Us | Contact Us | Press Release

Copyright © MusicVixen.com 2009