In Memoriam: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)

Posted by aubin on Monday, September 14, 2009 at 12:00 AM (EDT)

Legendary punk poet Jim Carroll has passed away at 60. The cause was a heart attack, said Rosemary Carroll, his former wife.

Carroll was well-known in the mainstream for the film, The Basketball Diaries, which starred Leonardo DiCaprio and covered his youth. His poetry and music was very influential, with Patti Smith saying:

I met him in 1970, and already he was pretty much universally recognized as the best poet of his generation. The work was sophisticated and elegant. He had beauty.

His fans included Allen Ginsberg, Ted Berrigan and Jack Kerouac and he contributed dialogue for Andy Warhol's films. Jim collaborated with musicians Lou Reed, Blue Öyster Cult, Boz Scaggs, Ray Manzarek of The Doors, Pearl Jam, and Rancid. One of his poems is the source of the phrase "... And Out Come the Wolves" which inspired the album of the same name and also featured his voice.

Our deepest condolences to his friends, family and fans.

(41 comments |  Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by AndyPonch on 2009-09-14 00:02:31
http://www.myspace.com/rebelsoundrecordsthestore

A true legend and one of the most amazing artists to ever emerge from punk rock. His work will live on for generations to come.

By the way, that new Muse ad fucking sucks.

NEVER BUY ANYTHING FROM MUSE
by PCS19 on 2009-09-14 06:01:50

they need to realize crazy shitty ads like that just piss people off and make them not want to buy there shit.

Re: NEVER BUY ANYTHING FROM MUSE
by UNTJosh on 2009-09-14 06:59:35

...or visit their site. As it were.

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by 2Kings on 2009-09-14 08:03:29
http://www.last.fm/user/TwoKings/

firefox + addblocker

yada yada

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by mikexdude on 2009-09-14 00:10:13

:o

http://www.punknews.org/article/35166
First time I've ever seen something posted after Navel Gazing. I guess it's technically the day after.

More important than Navel Gazing.

...but Beyonce had the greatest poetry of all time! ...THE GREATEST POETRY OF ALL TIME!

this was nice work outta you.

their the people who died died... their the people who died died... they were all my friends and they died... R.I.P.

That song is the best part of the movie E.T.

Jim Carroll wasn't supposed to die, that's lame.

Also how could he have been born in 1950 and been 60?

Ginsberg's name is misspelled too...

two days of no news and the first post is a death. whose bringing in the bad karma

take is easy
No, blame Eazy.

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by ChadReligion on 2009-09-14 00:37:52

Totally sucks. I remember seeing the Basketball Diaries at the movie theater because the girl I was going out with at the time had a thing for Leo D..., but I walked out of there wanting to know more about him. He even appears in the movie, which is also cool. The soundtrack had some really awesome songs on it too, one that he wrote with Pearl Jam, and probably the best Soundgarden song ever. RIP man

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by Archangel on 2009-09-14 00:52:00

Quick question: Who the fuck is Alan Ginsberg?

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by David5345 on 2009-09-14 01:19:44
http://apunkrockblog.blogspot.com/

A member of NAMBLA.

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by kcramone on 2009-09-14 17:00:55

Are you sure about that?

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by TraumaSponge on 2009-09-14 02:10:21
http://www.marvel.com

Beat poet. Wrote "Howl".

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by Archangel on 2009-09-14 02:16:13

Woosh, guys.

Re: Jim Carroll (1950-2009)
by punkbytheounce on 2009-09-14 00:53:10

Such an awesome dude. RIP

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by PitchforkWriter on 2009-09-14 01:26:19
http://www.pitchfork.com

Goddamn. I just finished putting my book about the beat generation down and came to check pn one last time and saw this. Horrible.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by drugmoney on 2009-09-14 19:47:42
http://www.vbs.tv/shows.php?show=412470155

Hey asshole i wasn't able to respond to your comment about me last night, because I had to wake up a 5am for work. So, trailer park? ha dude I'm 25, married, have a great daughter and live in my own house. This "moron" has a pretty good career, I make atleast $2,500 a week doing what I do. So fuck you, I just like getting underneath the skin of a overly obsessed cowboy fan. You're just a piece of shit that likes to run his dick lips. So "holla" at me whenever you're successful in something besides failing at life asshole. FUCK YOU
Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by SlackMFr on 2009-09-14 07:02:22

His writing & music were great. There's a huge void on the planet now. He was great doing spoken word tours as well. I saw him twice live & his delivery was perfect. R.I.P. Jim,

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by johnrambo on 2009-09-14 08:31:24

he's a person that died, died.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by kevgren on 2009-09-14 08:33:12
http://www.cheapshotphilly.com/

I've only ever heard "People Who Died," and I was just reading an article about him in Paste praising his album, Catholic Boy. Was planning on finally checking it out. I also heard "People Who Died" on WMMR last week and was very happy to hear it played on the radio. This is a shame.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by necktattoo on 2009-09-14 08:58:41

damn. basketball diaries is great.

junkie man tell me what your story is

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by MattRamone on 2009-09-14 09:51:42
http://www.thekidsarealldead.blogspot.com

It's a bummer that he's dead, but I never feel too bad about losing another baby boomer, especially one inspired by the Beats.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by RattusNorvegicus on 2009-09-15 00:56:25
http://www.myspace.com/ryanmudd

you will never create anything of value in your entire life

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by Greenman23 on 2009-09-14 11:09:31

Wow, someone dies, who did art, that was respected by the people who started punk, and you decide to lump him in with the Boomers he rejected. Class act. And if you don't like the Beats, throw out all your punk records.

Ginsberg in NAMBLA? If he was in that, then so was Grant Hart, so throw out your Husker Du discs and everything they influenced.

Being a drunk jackass doesn't make you punk, other wise all hair metal is punk then.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by MattRamone on 2009-09-14 12:01:33
http://www.thekidsarealldead.blogspot.com

http://farm2.static.flickr.com/1002/1019746574_4301f97ccb.jpg?v=0

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)  
by kevgren on 2009-09-14 13:00:01
http://www.cheapshotphilly.com/

I don't think the Beats were punk at all. They were spoiled hipsters. Just because Jim Carroll, Patti Smith, and Richard Hell liked them
doesn't mean that punk rock owes them a debt of gratitude.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by manincognito on 2009-09-14 12:54:18

wow, this is really sad news. RIP. his contributions and influence were vast, and his poems were always a personal favourite.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by LushJ on 2009-09-14 13:14:29
http://thefrisk.com/

I've always loved his music more than his writing- the 2 albums to get (in order) are

Catholic Boy (has "People Who Died") then Dry Dreams.

Elsewhere I've called it a mix of The Saints "Eternally Yours" with a downtown NYC Lou Reed/Patti Smith feel.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by brilldo on 2009-09-14 16:35:50

RIP...You Will be Missed...

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by smits on 2009-09-14 16:59:46

Excellent writer, my pops gave me a copy of Basketball Diaries when I was about 14. That book has had a lasting affect on my life. Sad day. R.I.P.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by LawnDay on 2009-09-14 18:11:35

Whoa, holy shit, RIP. One of the greats.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by RattusNorvegicus on 2009-09-15 00:57:41
http://www.myspace.com/ryanmudd

R.I.P.

Re: Jim Carroll (1949-2009)
by kcramone on 2009-09-19 16:48:27

RIP that he died died. He was a writer; first and foremost and a great writer at that. The music came later...

© 1999-2009 Punknews.org