Van Morrison — Bang Masters



This is the definitive collection of tracks Morrison recorded during his first stay in America. It contains some great songs, such as "Brown Eyed Girl" and "T.B. Sheets." But most of the interest here lies in seeing him struggle to

find a balance between commercial accessibility and artistic freedom. There's a revved up version of "Madame George" and forgettable stabs at the charts like "The Smile You Smile." Bang Masters is certainly more vital and interesting than anything Morrison has released during the last five or six years, but it is strictly for devoted fans.

Michael Giltz