

= Live ( Usher album ) =

Live is a live album by American singer Usher . It was recorded on October 15 and 16 , 1998 in the singer 's hometown of Chattanooga , Tennessee , and released by LaFace Records on March 23 , 1999 . Both audio @-@ only and video longform versions were released ; it was distributed to break up the gap between Usher 's second and third studio albums , My Way ( 1997 ) and 8701 ( 2001 ) .

Live received generally negative reviews from critics ; many criticized the poor live sound of Usher 's voice on the album . Live reached number 73 on the Billboard 200 , number 30 on the Top R & B Albums and number 3 on the Top Music Videos . The album has sold over 200 @,@ 000 copies in the United States , and both the audio and video versions have been certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America ( RIAA ) .

= = Background = =

Live was released to keep Usher 's fans satisfied during the four @-@ year break between My Way ( 1997 ) and 8701 , his second and third studio albums , respectively . During that time , Usher was busy pursuing an acting career in films The Faculty ( 1998 ) , Light It Up ( 1999 ) and Texas Rangers ( 2001 ) . The album was recorded at two free concerts Usher performed in his hometown of Chattanooga , Tennessee on October 15 and 16 , 1998 . Usher stated his reasons for releasing a live album in an interview with MTV , " I really like the sound of a band , that 's one , just for myself , but there were so many people who didn 't get a chance to see the concert , so I came out with a live version of most of the songs on my album , and I came out with a home video for all the people who didn 't get a chance to see the performance , and a little bio of me as well . " Seven of the songs included on Live are from Usher 's self @-@ titled debut album ( 1994 ) and My Way . A medley of songs originally performed by Bobby Brown ? " Don 't Be Cruel " , " Every Little Step " , " Rock Wit 'cha " and " Roni " ? is also featured on the album , along with covers of Force MDs ' " Tender Love " and LL Cool J 's " I Need Love " .

Live was released in the United States by LaFace Records on March 23 , 1999 by means of compact disc , cassette and VHS formats ; along with the concert footage , the VHS features interviews with Usher . The audio version Live was later serviced to digital retailers for music download .

= = Reception = =

Live received generally negative reviews from music critics . Stephen Thomas Erlewine from Allmusic criticized Usher 's " tired and weary " live sound , although he praised the remixed songs at the end of the album . Entertainment Weekly 's J. D. Considine gave Live a C grade and wrote that , despite Usher 's performing ability , the audio album is boring without video footage of the concerts . Neva Chonin of Rolling Stone was unimpressed with Usher 's " tinny " -sounding voice on Live .

Live debuted at number 76 on the US Billboard 200 on the chart dated April 10 , 2011 , with first @-@ week sales of 21 @,@ 000 copies . The album peaked at number 73 , and lasted nine weeks on the chart . On April 27 , 1999 Live was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America ( RIAA ) , denoting the shipment of 500 @,@ 000 units , and by the end of 2001 Live had sold over 200 @,@ 000 copies in the US . It debuted and peaked at number 30 on the Top R & B Albums , and remained on that chart for nine weeks . The video longform version of Live entered the US Top Music Videos chart at number four on the chart of April 10 , 1999 . It remained at number four for three weeks , before ascending to number three on May 1 , 1999 , where it peaked for one week . The RIAA certified the Live video gold , after it shipped 50 @,@ 000 copies , on December 22 , 1999 . The video of the performance of " Bedtime " was made available at MTV.com , and the live version of " Bedtime " reached number 66 on the Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Singles & Tracks chart .

= = Track listing = =

= = Personnel = =

Credits for Live adapted from Allmusic :

= = Charts and certifications = =