

= Kicking Television : Live in Chicago =

Kicking Television : Live in Chicago is a live album by Chicago alternative rock band Wilco , released on November 15 , 2005 by Nonesuch Records . The album consists of material from four live shows at Chicago 's Vic Theater recorded May 4 , 2005 to May 7 , 2005 . Although the band filmed the concerts , they decided not to release the footage as a DVD . It was the band 's first album with an expanded lineup featuring Nels Cline and Pat Sansone .

Kicking Television debuted on the Billboard 200 at number forty @-@ seven , and has since sold over 114 @,@ 000 copies . Critical reception to the album was generally positive . Publications such as The A.V. Club and Pitchfork Media lauded the band 's performance of material from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot and A Ghost Is Born .

On April 17 , 2010 , for Record Store Day Wilco released an audiophile , 180 @-@ gram vinyl pressing of Kicking Television . The vinyl pressing , spread across four LP 's , included eight previously unreleased tracks recorded in May 2005 .

= = Production = =

Shortly after the release of A Ghost Is Born , Wilco 's fifth studio album , multi @-@ instrumentalist Leroy Bach left the band to pursue a career in theater production . To replace him , the band added jazz rock guitarist Nels Cline and multi @-@ instrumentalist Pat Sansone to their lineup . The lineup was expanded because lead singer Jeff Tweedy was concerned that the other members were multi @-@ tasking on instruments . This made performing material live from Summerteeth and Yankee Hotel Foxtrot difficult . While touring in support of Ghost , Wilco decided to record their first live album .

Wilco decided to use concerts from their hometown of Chicago " because [they] wanted to be really comfortable " . They chose a string of four consecutive shows from May 4 to May 7 , 2005 at The Vic Theater in Chicago , Illinois . The band recorded the four shows on a 24 @-@ track digital recorder . The shows were filmed for a potential DVD release , but the band decided not to release the footage . According to Tweedy , the band was disappointed by how the footage " sapped " the energy out of the performances . On September 13 , 2005 , the band announced that the album would be released on November 1 , 2005 . The release date was later delayed two weeks .

Most of the material from the album ? 16 of 23 songs ? is from Wilco 's two Nonesuch Records releases : Yankee Hotel Foxtrot and A Ghost Is Born . The title track was an outtake from the Ghost recording sessions because the band considered it to be one of their most exciting songs live . Tweedy explained why it was chosen for the title :

A rock concert is " kicking television . " If you 're out of the house and with a bunch of people enjoying something together , that 's kicking television to me . I don 't think very many people , myself included , will ever kick television cold turkey , but I certainly think more people should be aware of what it 's doing to them .

Two live tracks from Summerteeth were also included on the album , as well as one song each from Being There , Mermaid Avenue and Mermaid Avenue Vol . II . The final track was a cover of " Comment (If All Men Are Truly Brothers) " , originally performed by Charles Wright & the Watts 103rd Street Rhythm Band . " How to Fight Loneliness " (from Summerteeth) and " Monday " (from Being There) were included with purchase of the album on iTunes .

Guitarist Jeff Tweedy provided the lead vocals for the album and John Stirratt , the only other original member of the band , played bass guitar and added backing vocals . Lead guitarist Nels Cline and multi @-@ instrumentalist Pat Sansone performed here on a Wilco album for the first time . Glenn Kotche performed on the drums and other percussion instruments , and Mikael Jorgensen played keyboards . Other instrumentation was provided by Patrick Newbery (trumpet and flugelhorn) , Nick Broste (trombone) , and Rick Parenti (baritone sax) .

= = Release and reception = =

Nonesuch Records released the album on November 15 , 2005 . The album debuted at number forty @-@ seven on the U.S. Billboard 200 and spent two weeks on the chart . As of April 13 , 2007 , the album has sold over 114 @,@ 000 copies .

Kicking Television was well received by critics ; according to Metacritic , it was given a score of 85 out of 100 based on " universal acclaim " . Scott Tobias of The A.V. Club called the album " stellar " and expressed surprise over how well the A Ghost Is Born songs sounded live . Allmusic editor Mark Deming lauded the " new muscle and force " of the songs , and commented that " the élan of this band in full flight shows that the fun has been put back in Wilco . " Marc Hogan of Pitchfork Media called the Yankee Hotel Foxtrot songs " still awesome " and remarked that " this is what A Ghost Is Born is supposed to sound like . " Hogan gave the album an 8 @.@ 3 out of 10 rating . Q named the album one of the top 20 live albums of all time . It also gave the album four stars out of five and said that " Live albums rarely come equipped with such a strong pulse . "

E ! Online gave the album an A and said that Wilco " [turn] each song up to 11 and [let their] rabid hometown fans provide thousand @-@ strong backing vocals . It 'll make you want to yell ' Wooh ! ' too . " Spin also gave it an A and stated : " Not since Grateful Dead 's Europe ' 72 has there been a live double album in which intimacy and expansiveness , guitar mess and piano reflection commingle this sweetly . " Billboard gave it a favorable review and said that Wilco had " never sounded better " . Ben Gilbert of Yahoo ! Music UK gave it eight stars out of ten and that the album " documents a band on fire and a frontman in clarion clear voice . " Under the Radar also gave it eight stars out of ten and said the album " Captures a band at the height of their creative powers . " Uncut gave it four stars out of five and said , " In this live setting , fascinatingly , the brutality to which the songs are subjected only serves to underscore their poignancy . " Blender also gave it four stars out of five and said it " sounds like a greatest hits set . "

Although most reviews applauded the effort , critics also expressed discontent with elements of the album . Hogan noted in his Pitchfork review that Tweedy 's banter was " ho @-@ hum " , and stated that " Kicking Television " and " The Late Greats " should have been cut from the album . Andrew Gaering of Stylus Magazine gave the album a B rating , but was disappointed with how the songs " find the band holding serve " .

= = Track listing = =

All songs were written by Jeff Tweedy , except where noted .

= = = Disc one = = =

" Misunderstood " ? 6 : 08 (from Being There)
" Company in My Back " ? 3 : 44 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" The Late Greats " ? 2 : 40 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" Hell Is Chrome " (Mikael Jorgensen , Tweedy) ? 4 : 56 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" Handshake Drugs " ? 6 : 23 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" I Am Trying to Break Your Heart " ? 6 : 03 (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" Shot in the Arm " (Jay Bennett , John Stirratt , Tweedy) ? 4 : 51 (from Summerteeth)
" At Least That 's What You Said " ? 5 : 18 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" Wishful Thinking " (Glenn Kotche , Tweedy) ? 4 : 26 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" Jesus , Etc . " (Bennett , Tweedy) ? 4 : 00 (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" I 'm the Man Who Loves You " (Bennett , Tweedy) ? 3 : 58 (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" Kicking Television " ? 3 : 03 (B @-@ Side of " I 'm a Wheel ")

= = = Disc two = = =

" Via Chicago " ? 5 : 14 (from Summerteeth)
" Hummingbird " ? 3 : 19 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" Muzzle of Bees " ? 4 : 49 (from A Ghost Is Born)

" One by One " (Woody Guthrie , Tweedy) ? 3 : 26 (from Mermaid Avenue)
" Airline to Heaven " (Bennett , Guthrie , Tweedy) ? 4 : 41 (from Mermaid Avenue Vol . II)
" Radio Cure " (Bennett , Tweedy) ? 4 : 42 (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" Ashes of American Flags " (Bennett , Tweedy) ? 6 : 03 (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" Heavy Metal Drummer " ? 3 : 21 (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" Poor Places " (Bennett , Tweedy) ? 5 : 31 (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" Spiders (Kidsmoke) " ? 11 : 17 (from A Ghost Is Born)
" Comment " (Yusef Rahman , Charles Wright) ? 6 : 13 (previously unreleased)

= = = Vinyl bonus tracks = = =

" Another Man 's Done Gone " (Guthrie , Bragg) (from Mermaid Avenue)
" How to Fight Loneliness " (Tweedy , Bennett) (from Summerteeth)
" Theologians " (Tweedy , Jorgensen , Chris Girard) (from A Ghost Is Born)
" Kamera " (Tweedy , Bennett) (from Yankee Hotel Foxtrot)
" Just a Kid " (Jeff Tweedy , Spencer Tweedy) (from The SpongeBob SquarePants Movie : Music From the Movie and More)
" Monday " (from Being There)
" Outtasite (Outta Mind) " (from Being There)
" I 'm a Wheel " (from A Ghost Is Born)

= = Personnel = =

All information is taken from the liner notes of Kicking Television .

Jeff Tweedy ? vocals , guitar
John Stirratt ? bass guitar , backing vocals
Glenn Kotche ? drums , percussion
Nels Cline ? guitar , lap steel guitar
Pat Sansone ? guitar , keyboards , backing vocals
Mikael Jorgensen ? keyboards
Patrick Newbery ? trumpet , flugelhorn
Nick Broste ? trombone
Rick Parenti ? baritone sax
Karina Benznicki ? production supervisor
Eli Cane ? production coordination
Mykle Konopka , Timothy Powell ? engineers
Nick Webb ? mastering
Stan Doty , Jim Scott ? mixing
Dan Glomski , Michael Ways ? assistants
Chris Hoffman , Deborah Miles Johnson , Frankie Montuoro , Matt Zivich ? technical crew
Nathan Baker ? photography , technical crew
Zoran Orlic , Mike Segal ? photography