Corey's Top 10 2025 Concerts

In 2025, my wife and daughter attended one concert with me – to celebrate reaching seven decades on this planet, one I attended solo, Marisa was supposed to join me on all the other shows but a conflict occurred and her mom stepped in for our daughter. As with last year, choosing what made the cut and ranking a top ten was not in any way easy. Even the shows that did not make the cut were special. Last year I opted to just report on the concerts in chronological order; that would be easier. I enjoyed reviewing this year's list of shows, placing them in order as I went through the year with the first show and arranging shows above and below and working through the list. As I blogged about the shows in my Sunday Gotham blog, I also enjoyed working back through those (and other of my) blogs (along the way). I texted the list to Marisa yesterday and she offered no corrections to the order. I also recall that I described the 2023 shows difficult to rank.

- 1) **John Fogerty** joined by sons Tyler and Shane played an amazing show on his 80th birthday at the storied Beacon Theatre, Wednesday, May 28. As I Gotham <u>blogged</u>, the Sunday following this excellent concert, "John and his band including sons Shane and Tyler played with energy, enthusiasm and expertise..." I did not "hurt" that I found myself seated next to long-time friends. I recommend viewing the concert in its entirety on <u>YouTube</u>.
- 2) For my milestone 70th, we made plans to see the **Eagles** at the Sphere in Las Vegas, Saturday, October 4. Great choice; greater show! The music is enough but multi-media experience available only in this venue certainly enhanced the experience. I posted the setlist in a Gotham <u>blog</u> following our return.
- 3) **The Who** 'The Song is Over' 2025 North American Farewell Tour, Thursday, August 28 at Jones Beach featured a setlist "full of songs that graced my stereo turntable plenty of times back in the day," as I wrote in my blog.
- 4) **Peter Frampton**, who contemplated retirement a few years ago, sang and played as great as ever at my fave venue, The Capitol Theatre in Portchester, Tuesday, April 1. As I <u>blogged</u>, "I enjoyed his decision to cover three songs her performed with Humble Pie (See set list in the blog,).
- 5) The Brothers drummer and founding Allmans member Jaimoe, guitarist and members of its last iteration vocalist Warren Haynes, guitarist Derek Trucks, bassist Oteil Burbridge and percussionist Marc Quiñone, joined by the Allmans' original rehearsal keyboardist Reese Wynans and special guest its 1970s era pianist Chuck Leavell, as well as drummers Joe Russo and Isaac Eady, reunited on stage Tuesday and Wednesday, April 15 and 16 at Madison Square Garden. As I shared in my Gotham blog the following Sunday, Marisa and I chose "Tax Day" because we already had tickets to see former Yes keyboardist Rick Wakeman at the Paramount, the next day.
- 6) **Neil Young** & the Chrome Hearts played Jones Beach Saturday, August 23. As I <u>blogged</u>, 53 years passed between this show and the first time I saw Neil (Of course I've seen Neil often solo, with CSN, Stephen Stills and Crazy Horse in between. The "Neil Young & The Chrome Hearts Love Earth World Tour" band featured guitarist Micah Nelson (son of Willie), the rhythm section of Lucas Nelson's Promise of the Real: bassist Corey McCormick and drummer Anthony LoGerfo, and veteran session player organist Spooner Oldham. I really enjoyed my long time fave Neil tune, "When You Dance" from my fave and Neil's third Album, "After the Gold Rush." My daughter enjoyed the show but shared she only knew ond song performed, the encore "Rockin' in the Free World."

- 7) **Jon Anderson** was the lead vocalist in Yes, one of my fave bands during high school. As I reported in my Sunday <u>blog</u> following his Friday, May 16 concert at the Flagstar at Westbury Music Fair, this show topped the performance Marisa and I took in last year at the Capitol Theater in Portchester. Jon and "his" Band Geeks played three new tunes (Counties and Countries, Once Upon A Dream, True Messenger) that sounded just like Yes during its Yessongs heyday.
- 8) **The Doobie Brothers** Walk the Road Album Release Event, FridayJune 6 at Irving Plaza showcased the first four cuts of a ten song album. As I <u>reviewed</u> for Gotham, "[T]hey opened the show with Take Me in Your Arms and closed with Long Train Runnin' into China Grove before delivering an encore featuring Black Water, Takin' it to The Streets and Listen to the Music.
- 9-10) **Darryl Hall & Glen Tilbrook** played the The Capitol Theatre, Thursday, July 17 and Wednesday the 23rd at the Paramount in Huntington. The Daryl's House band (guitarist and musical director Shane Theriot, keyboardist Greg Mayo, drummer Brian Dunne, bassist Klyde Jones, percussionist Porter Carroll Jr., and saxophonist Charlie DeChant) backed both Hall of Hall & Oates and Tilbrook of Squeeze. In my <u>Gotham review</u> following the first show, "No offense to Mr. Hall but my daughter told me post-show Glenn out performed Daryl; I found that interesting as Marisa had no familiarity to the best of her Dad's knowledge with Glen's solo work."

Honorable Mentions: <u>John Lodge</u> (of the Moody Blues with current Yes lead singer and now son-inlaw Jon Davison) February 26 and <u>Burton Cummings</u> (of the Guess Who) March 15 both at Westbury and <u>Rick Wakeman</u> April 16 at The Paramount.