



CAROLE KING: THE LIVING ROOM TOUR

In 1971 a young woman sat solo in the spotlight for the first time since high school.

During the previous decade, this woman had quietly helped define rock and roll by co-writing over 50 songs that had landed in the Top 40—some climbing all the way to #1. As she sat alone at the piano, she was arguably the most successful female songwriter in pop music history. She was, of course, Carole King, whose early career had centered on her collaborations with Gerry Goffin. The hooks and the melodies were mostly her responsibility. She knew the structure of a song. She loved doing it. And there wasn't anyone who could do it any better.

But on this night, her friend, James Taylor, had coaxed her away from the comfort of being a member of his band to take center stage and open for him at The Troubadour in Los Angeles. Just before that, several of her own songs from an album called "Tapestry," sung in her own voice, were starting to be played on the radio. The sold-out crowd was about to be introduced to a life force and on that night Carole King was no longer just the most successful female songwriter of all time; she became a performer as well.

King's performances that year were sparsely produced affairs whose intimacy only heightened her connection with her audience. An intimate evening with Carole King was like spending an evening with a favorite friend surrounded by the most beautiful music.

Earlier this year, Carole had the opportunity to relive that experience when she performed at small venues around the country in support of Presidential candidate John Kerry. Accompanied by her longtime guitar player, Rudy Guess, Carole was inspired by the simplicity of the shows. "I realized I could do the same thing in larger venues and still make people feel like it's a living room," says King. "The idea of bringing a show back to basics really appealed to me."

So, this summer, after not touring for more than a decade, Carole King's fans can once again spend a special evening with a favorite friend and enjoy the beautiful music of "**Carole King: The Living Room Tour.**" She's not touring to support a new album—although the follow-up to her 2001 release on her own Rockingale label, "Love Makes the World," is slated for 2005—but instead is on tour just because she feels that the time is right.

"I love performing when it feels right, and I want every performance to be fresh and special," King muses. "To perform as if I'm in someone's house playing for friends is something I can get excited about."

"**Carole King: The Living Room Tour**" combines the intimacy of the "Tapestry" tour with over forty years of great songs—now *that* is something that her fans can get excited about too.

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