



Let Them Photograph Your Soul

A VISUAL BIOGRAPHY OF
JIM MORRISON

By Jerry Prochnicky

Aldus Boek Compagnie

*There are images I need
to complete my own reality*

Jim Morrison

LET THEM PHOTOGRAPH YOUR SOUL

Let Them Photograph Your Soul

A VISUAL BIOGRAPHY OF
JIM MORRISON

By Jerry Prochnicky

All rights reserved. This book, or parts thereof, may not be reproduced in any form without permission. The scanning, uploading and distribution of this book via the internet or any other means without permission of the publisher is illegal and punishable by law. Please purchase only printed editions and do not participate in or encourage electronic piracy of copyrighted materials. Your support of the author's rights is appreciated.

All photos and other images used with kind permission.

All copyrights are held by the credited photographers / archives / owners.

Let Them Photograph Your Soul. A Visual Biography of Jim Morrison

First edition December 2023

Copyright © Jerry Prochnicky

Front cover photo © James Fortune

Photo of the author © [name]

Book design and typesetting Fred Baggen / Aldus Boek Compagnie

Printing and binding PGN, Almere, The Netherlands

ISBN 978 94 92819 10 9

www.aldusboekcompagnie.nl

For more information about Jerry Prochnicky and Let Them Photograph Your Soul, please visit

www.let-them-photograph-your-soul.com



Them and The Doors. Van Morrison and Jim at the Whisky A Go-Go, Hollywood, June 18, 1966.

© GEORGE RODRIGUEZ

Van Morrison remembers: “We did ‘In The Midnight Hour’ and ‘Gloria’. He was really raw. He knew what he was doing and could do it very well.”



The Doors at Crescenta Valley High School, May 26, 1967

by Ralph Hulett

I first became intrigued with the Doors after getting their first album in early 1967. I liked the imagery in Morrison's lyrics and the unique fusion of jazz, blues and rock that drove the music. That spring, word came that the Doors were going to play on May 26 at my high school in La Crescenta, Crescenta Valley High. The event was called The Day, an annual celebration for the graduating class. The Doors were to play an afternoon show in the auditorium. I got even more excited later when it was announced that any students could see this show if they bought the ticket for \$2.

The day of the concert I was on the balcony, which gave me a great view of the entire stage. Few of us knew what to expect. The house lights stayed on, and the group came out. It all started with Manzarek's dramatic organ introduction to "When the Music's Over." Densmore's drums and cymbals came in next, interacting with the keyboards. Morrison stood quietly at the mike stand, his head down and eyes closed, unmoving. He wore a red pullover sweater and white pants, with black, pointed Beatles-style boots. Then it all broke loose with Krieger's screeching guitar and Morrison's wild scream. Then Morrison sang a strange and mysterious song that I hadn't heard before about the music being over. Since the song would appear later in the second album, none of us knew it. At times Morrison pushed himself on and off the mike stand, making sexually suggestive moves. He came off as rebellious. Everything seemed to go fine until after the second verse. Krieger went into a volume-laden solo on his red Gibson SG, bringing up the intensity. Then Morrison began his poetry section, but his microphone crackled, then it went out. The band played on some, then stopped altogether. Some people came onstage and tried to fix the mike wiring. During the break some information was shared with the band.

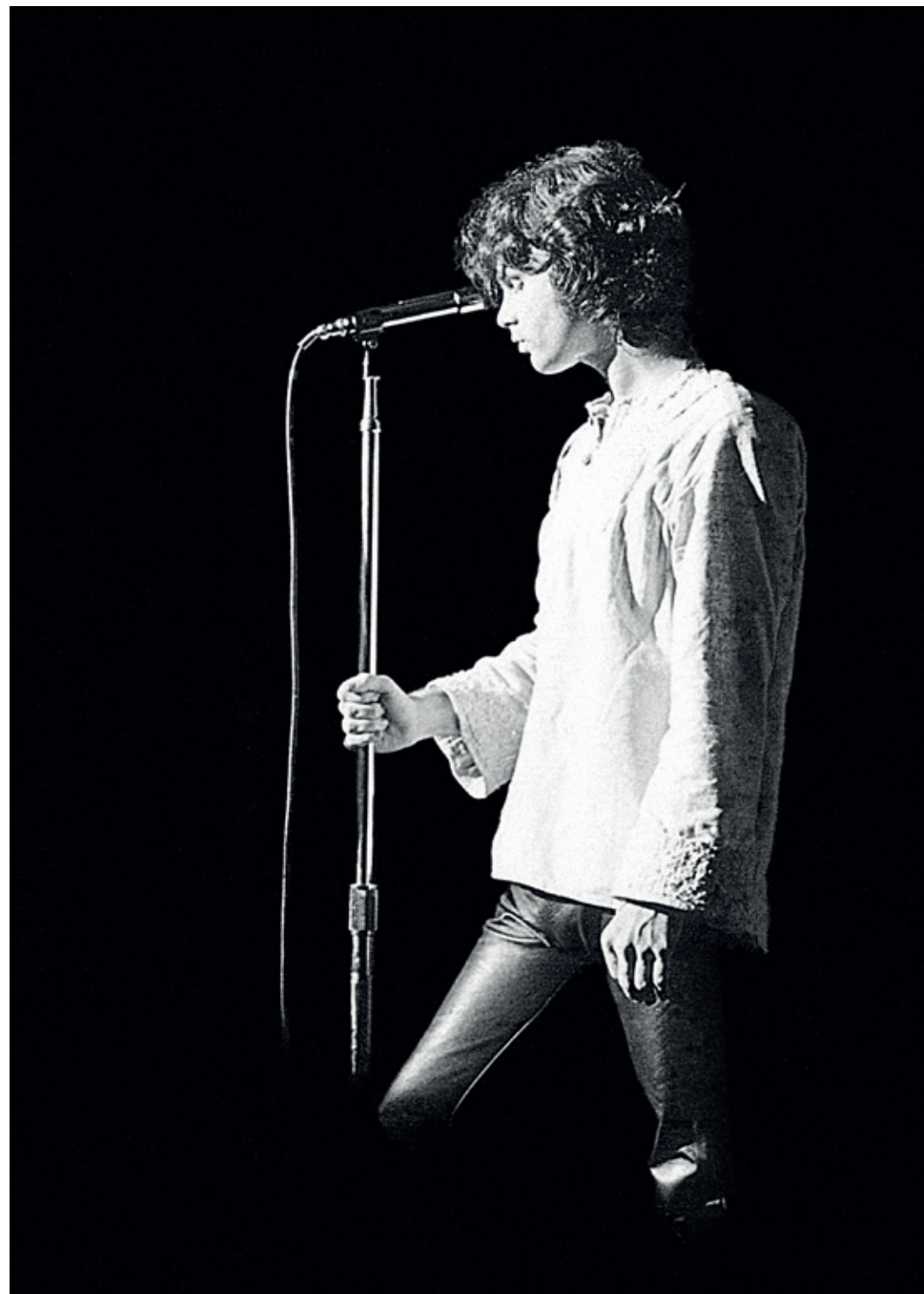
Suddenly Densmore hit his snare, Manzarek's brilliant organ intro filled the auditorium, and the band went into "Light My Fire." Morrison's vocals were audible but muffled. During the lengthy instrumental break, I watched how Manzarek, Krieger and Densmore played off each other and stretched the song out. By using cymbals and rolls, Densmore's drums reacted to the highs and lows. The group created stage magic that was unique at that time. The instrumental section ended, and Morrison tried his best at the final verse with the bad microphone. Everyone cheered for more – but we were told the show was over. Rumors spread later that the administration who supervised the concert wasn't happy with Morrison's provocative stage moves. Other rumors were that since Morrison acted spaced out onstage, he could have been high on drugs. My first-ever rock concert was only around 15 minutes. I was bummed out at it being cut short. But the Doors' music still thrilled me. Despite the shortcomings, this concert led me to see The Doors again in 1967, at California State University, Los Angeles.



Jim Morrison backstage at Crescenta Valley High, May 26, 1967. © LINDA NEFF



The Doors set the music to poetic drama in London, 1968. © ANDREW MACLEAR



An amplified poet in black leather pants. © PETER SANDERS



From a struggling bar band beginning to a 20,000 seat sell-out at Madison Square Garden on January 24, 1969.

© TOM MONASTER



This and opposite page © EDGAR BERNSTEIN

No limits! No laws!
The Doors in Miami
March 1, 1969





© JOCHEN MAASSEN

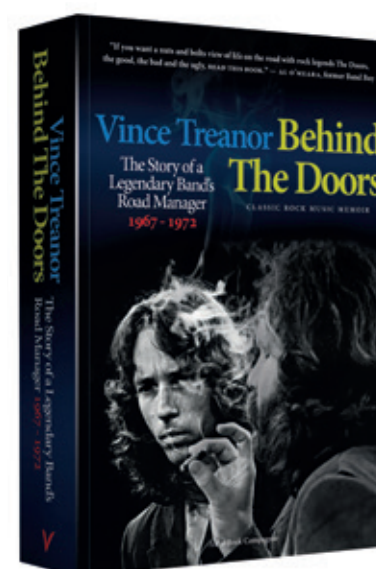
“We live, we die,
& death not ends it”
Jim Morrison



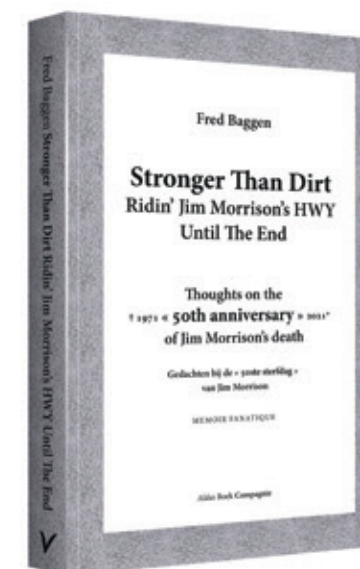
Our other Jim Morrison / The Doors related books are available here:

www.aldusboekcompagnie.nl

www.behind-the-doors.com



Vince Treanor
Behind The Doors (2022)
(English)



Fred Baggen
Stronger Than Dirt (2021)
(English & Dutch combined)



Jochen Maaßen
Wild Child... in the City
of Light (2006)
(English)