

"She is like no one else" (Opening for Bob Weir/Rob Wasserman)

Los Angeles Times

For their two-song encore, Weir and Wasserman were joined by opening act Susan James. James' sweet harmonies with Weir on the chorus to "Spoonful" added an additional dimension to the stark Weir/Wasserman sound.

In her 45-minute opening set, James showed that she is already a master at exploring the emotional and sonic possibilities of the minimalist format of voice and acoustic guitar. James used the impressive range of her trained voice as well as the knowledge of ethnic music she acquired as an ethnomusicology major at UCLA to create an entire world of innovative sounds and moods. She drew an ovation from the crowd for her impressionistic instrumental depiction of a New Mexico thunderstorm.

James' long blond hair and folk-based songs have caused her to be compared to Joni Mitchell. The inventiveness of her eight-song set, however, showed that James is perhaps most like Mitchell because she is like no one else.

-Noel Davis, Los Angeles Times

http://articles.latimes.com/1993-05-08/entertainment/ca-32777_1_dead-member-bob-weir/2