

# AUDIOPHILE VINYL



## DELANEY & BONNIE & FRIENDS

On Tour with Eric Clapton  
Speakers Corner

**D**elaney and Bonnie Bramlett were husband and wife and purveyors of some top quality blues, country and roots-based fare. Their approach to music soared towards the poles. On one side of the coin, the pair had an open and relaxing relationship with their music. If you had the chops, you were welcome to join the gang and enjoy yourself at your pace, without any pressures or hassles. With space to breathe and to express yourself in creative terms. This is the main reason why the pair attracted a series of famous friends to join their troupe.

On the other side of the coin, the Bramletts - or maybe that should be termed Brawling Bramletts - fought like cat and dog with many people in the area, being hit by the shrapnel.

Despite the arguments, the music they and their friends produced was of high quality. This

1970 outing only lasted forty-two minutes and spanned eight songs but the album is tightly packed with quality.

The fact that Clapton felt free of the pressures of fame meant that he could spread his wings and he certainly does that on tracks such as 'I Don't Want to Discuss It' and 'Coming Home'.

One item of note: Clapton enjoyed himself so much that, if you take a look at the rear sleeve and peruse the line up, you'll notice Bobby Whitlock, Carl Radle and Jim Gordon all listed. The three of them would later become part of the Derek & The Dominoes outfit.

In addition, you'll also find Dave Mason, Rita Coolidge and Bobby Keys (associated with The Rolling Stones) on sax and Tex Johnson (who appeared on Clapton's Crossroads) on drums. Mastering, as ever with Speakers Corner releases, is excellent. A superb edition.