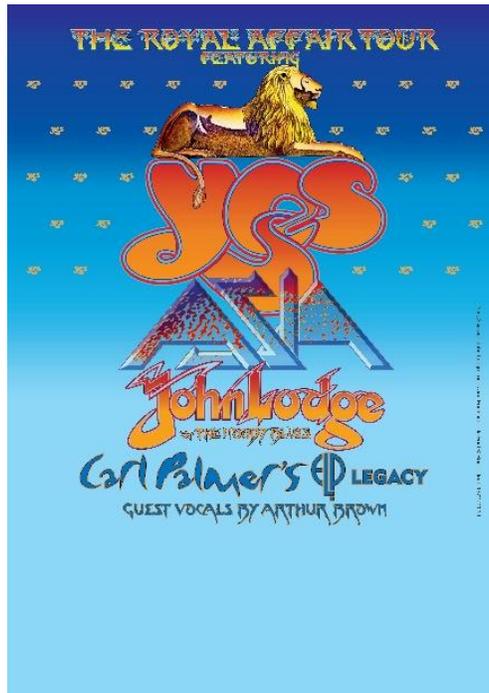


# YES

## CRITIC QUOTES / 2019 – The Royal Affair Tour



## MUSIC CONNECTION

“As always, YES put on a magical show and took the crowd on a journey through their hits.”

--Alex Kluff, [Music Connection](#), 8/5/19



“Yes closed out the evening with a brilliant set filled with energetic deep cuts...they focused on material that played to the group’s strengths, and gave guitarists Steve Howe a chance to shine. Vocally, Jon Davison has come into his own... He also looks like he is having a great time and is able to work the stage with ease. The Yes set closed with the 20 minute-plus ‘Gates of Delirium,’ from their Relayer album. It was an ambitious undertaking, but they nailed it. The evening closed with a moving version of ‘Imagine,’ a song that Yes drummer Alan White played on Lennon’s studio version of, and ‘Roundabout.’

--Thom Jennings, [Niagara Gazette](#) (Niagara Falls, NY), 6/26/19

## THE OAKLAND PRESS

"Yes, meanwhile, celebrated the 50th anniversary of its first album with a kind of kitchen-sink setlist, tossing plenty of rarities, and oddities, into its hour and 50 minutes on stage -- opening with its rocking take of Richie Havens' 'No Opportunity Necessary...' from its 1970 album Time and A Word and then tearing through 'Tempus Fugit.' The marquee moment was its longest, however -- the 22-minute epic 'Gates of Delirium' from 1974's Relayer album, performed for the first time in 18 years, whose lengthy instrumental passage was delivered with a virtuosic precision that held up to the original. Yes sent everyone home with more favorites -- 'Roundabout' and 'Starship Trooper,' ...Nostalgia reigned in this Royal Affair, but it was a glorious kind of past that fully merited the celebration."

--Gary Graff, [The Oakland Press](#) (Oakland, MI), 7/4/19

## the prog report

"...Yes came on and kicked off with their version of 'No Opportunity Necessary, No Experience Needed' before jumping into a wide mix of material from 'Tempus Fugit' and 'Going For the One' to 'I've Seen All Good People' and 'Siberian Khatru.' They have decided to mix things up more on this tour and the fans surely seemed thrilled by the choices. Following a rousing rendition of 'America' the band closed the main set with 'The Gates of Delirium' from Relayer."

"The band sounded great and had brilliant visuals to accompany the songs. Sherwood's bass playing is perfectly suited to capture the essence of the late Chris Squire while Geoff Downes and Steve Howe are still at the top of their games. Vocalist Jon Davison has definitely settled into to his role and looks extremely comfortable on stage, hitting each note with ease. Meanwhile, Drummer Jay Schellen swapped drum duties with Alan White throughout the set. The band returned for the encore to perform John Lennon's 'Imagine' on which Alan White originally played the drums. It was a wonderful version. Of course, they then closed with 'Roundabout' and 'Starship Trooper.'"

--Roie Avin, [The Prog Report](#), 7/15/19

## glide MAGAZINE

...[the]revved-up crowd went wild when the members of Yes came out to close the night of historic prog...Davison does an incredible job of duplicating the alto tenor range of original band vocalist Jon Anderson. The other musicians played with such precision that it was almost like hearing the studio

albums again. Howe was particularly impressive playing various electric guitars, a steel guitar and a lute. His solo acoustic guitar performance of 'Clap' from The Yes Album nearly stole the show."

--Andy Gordon, [Glide Magazine](#), 7/30/2019



"...wild applause from the crowd...unique night of rock music history that has endured for half a century."

--L. Paul Mann, [Grateful Web](#), 8/6/19

**vintage rock . com**

"...Yes proved again that they are, after all these years, still the kings of progressive rock."

--Charlie Steffens, [Vintage Rock](#), 8/5/19



"For more than 45 years, Yes has been writing and performing multi-faceted songs that are intricate, graceful and always technically savvy. No matter the decade, the concert experience has never been about loud distortion or pent up aggression. Rather, the arcane lyrics and sounds take fans on an aggrandized musical journey into the surreal. Though the band has gone through several personnel changes in their 20 album career, one thing has always remained the same — a commitment to excellence by every member who has played an instrument or sang into a microphone. Along for the ride was singer Jon Davison, guitarist Steve Howe, drummer Alan White, keyboardist Geoff Downes and bassist Billy Sherwood with drummer Jay Schellen."

--[Big Shot Concerts](#), 7/25/19

**shindigmusic**

"Yes's 12-song, hour-and-45-minute set was more of a departure than Yes has shown in recent years. Kicking off with the opening track from 1970's Time and A Word album, 'No Opportunity Necessary, No Experience Needed,' was welcomed with open arms by long time fans of the iconic band. The six-minute 'Tempus Fugit' followed and was an absolute treat...Howe, now 72, seemed especially invigorated – while playing his 1971 solo piece 'Clap,' he lifted a leg, then kicked it, and shook his head and body as the crowd gleefully cheered him on... An 11-minute 'Siberian Khatru' may have received a standing ovation, but the audience was truly rewarded when classic Yes

drummer Alan White joined the band for an especially stellar version of Simon & Garfunkel's  
'America.'"

--Robert Locke, [Shindigmusic](#), 7/23/19

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