

Home &gt; Blogs


[The Set List](#)  
[Posts](#) | [Bio](#)

## Sam Smith At The Belasco Theatre

April 18, 2014 - 11:11 am



Sam Smith performs at the Belasco Theatre on April 15

Photo: Ramon Alvarez-Smikie

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Welcome to The Set List. Here you'll find the latest concert recaps for many of your favorite, or maybe not so favorite, artists. Our bloggers will do their best to provide you with every detail of the show, from which songs were on the set list to what the artist was wearing to which out-of-control fan made a scene. Hey, it'll be like you were there. And if you like what you read, we'll even let you know where you can catch the artist on tour. Feel free to drop us a comment and let us know your concert experience. Oh, and rock on.

By Ramon Alvarez-Smikie  
Los Angeles

British singer/songwriter Sam Smith is arguably one of the most impressive new voices to emerge this year, so naturally his first headlining show in Los Angeles since playing the Troubadour in 2013 was one to remember, marked by excellent vocals, powerful ballads and, surprisingly, a little bit of dancing.

As the sold-out crowd filtered into the Belasco Theatre on April 15, the fans were buzzing with anticipation. Just after 9 p.m., following a brief energetic instrumental introduction from his band, Smith jogged onstage, stylishly dressed in a blue blazer, blue pants and stylish blue velvet shoes. After greeting the crowd with a soft-spoken "hello Los Angeles," he began his hour-long set with "Nirvana," a track from his *Nirvana E.P.*

After continuing with the Nile Rodgers- and Disclosure-assisted track "Together," Smith confessed that he was amazed by the number of people who packed both the floor and balcony sections. He asked the crowd if they wanted to hear some new music from his upcoming debut album, *In The Lonely Hour*, to which they responded with wild cheers. The new songs he performed included the ballad "Leave Your Lover" and the more up-tempo "I'm Not The Only One," the latter of which had Smith showcasing his dance moves.

Smith launched into more crowd favorites, including the quite "I've Told You Now," the longing "Lay Me Down" and the danceable "Money On My Mind." He smiled as he delivered each note perfectly, interacting with the entire audience as he moved from one end of the stage to the other. Smith peppered in "Not In That Way," which peaked at No. 6 on the iTunes Songs chart. To his surprise, most of the audience already knew the words, which seemed to delight him.

Smith completed his set with the Naughty Boy Top 40 hit on which he's featured, "La La La." As he exited the stage, the crowd continued to scream and cheer for an encore. Happy to oblige, Smith reappeared and launched into an acoustic version of "Latch." Then, as a special surprise, Smith brought Disclosure's Howard Lawrence to the stage to perform their song "Make It To Me" for the very first time live. The set ended with a powerful performance of his latest single "Stay With Me."

It was a perfect ending to one of the best concerts I have seen so far this year, and a fantastic display of the power that a phenomenal voice and perfectly written songs still holds.