

## Van, It Only Took 50 Years: Michael's Rock and Roll Posse

<http://www.uncut.co.uk/reviews/album/van-morrison-authorized-bang-collection>

What perfect timing to share this information about the 50 years of Van and Bang. If ever there were an object lesson for the inherent unfairness and albatross-ness facing struggling artists, Van is Object Lesson One, followed closely by the late Prince, who died without a will. In a workshop today in Houston on intellectual property law, I will mention this veryyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyyy late correction of Van's 50 year struggle to get out from underneath his Bang contract:

[http://www.law.uh.edu/ipil/IPlawSectionStateBarOfTexas\\_CuttingEdgeCopyrightIssues\\_Announcement\\_7\\_17\\_2017.pdf](http://www.law.uh.edu/ipil/IPlawSectionStateBarOfTexas_CuttingEdgeCopyrightIssues_Announcement_7_17_2017.pdf)

In 1967, no one knew he would produce *Astral Weeks*, and all the other glorious music he has. At that time, he was very likely to be deported from the US, had no genuine legal assistance, and might have fallen by the wayside travelled by other one-hit wonders. Instead, his wicked talent, stubbornness, and persistence paid off. Very few artists of his stature ever get to right the wrongs of poor early decisions and adhesion contracts.

Congratulations, Van. You are the Man,

Michael