

THE KINKS – You Really Got Me: The Story of the Kinks (Voiceprint, UK)

God Save The Kinks...and their fans, from shoddy, cynical merchandise like this DVD. The makers of this so-called "documentary" have cobbled together a grab bag of Kinks TV clips of such mediocre quality that they must have been sourced from old VHS tapes or maybe even YouTube.

In many cases a letterbox effect is employed to block out TV station logos or other identifiable code. Many of the songs are only brief excerpts (less than a minute each of classics like "Waterloo Sunset," "Dead End Street," "Days" and "Village Green Preservation Society"), and in piss-poor quality.

The only complete clips come from the German TV show *Beat Beat Beat* (great, but already familiar to most Kinks fans), live concert footage from (I think) the early '90s, and a handful of videos from the "Come Dancing" era, which look like they were taped off MTV back in the day.

The band's story is inserted intermittently by a faceless narrator, who reads some stilted no-brainer material in a voice that sounds like an American AM radio disc jockey circa 1971. On-camera interview clips of Ray and Dave Davies and Mick Avory, chopped and diced from various '80s and '90s era sources, are inserted clumsily along the way with little regard for continuity.

This entire 87-minute catastrophe looks like a high school video editing project from the 1980s, and even then it would have received an F grade. I'm giving it an F-minus. (MS)

