



'Oil City Confidential,' a film by Julien Temple (MVDvisual, 5 Stars)

This Nov. 5 DVD release is not a typical doc- or rockumentary. It is the third part of Julien Temple's filmic trilogy that began with his film about the Sex Pistols, "The Great Rock & Roll Swindle." I reviewed the soundtrack to his movie about Joe Strummer, "The Future is Unwritten," awhile back.

Dr. Feelgood was the best example of pub rock, the grittier alternative to progressive music that they debuted in early-1970s Britain. They played raucous blues/R&B covers, then evolved into cool originals, mostly written by guitarist/onstage psycho Wilko Johnson. The other members (singer/harmonicist Lee Brilleaux, who died of cancer, bassist John B. Sparkes and drummer John Martin) add commentary of their own about growing up on Canvey Island and their career.

Temple's films use a combination of old performance footage, archival film images, fictional action and modern-day footage, and are informative as well as entertaining. Other people like former Blondie drummer Clem Burke, former Pistol Glen Matlock, photographer Roberta Bailey and others add to the commentary mix.

This is a cool film and makes me want to find some Feelgood material.

- Ricky Flake