

DVDs & BOOKS

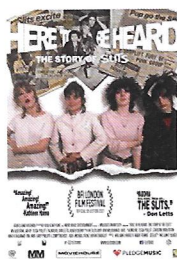
FILMS/DVDS



HERE TO BE HEARD: THE STORY OF THE SLITS

(Moviehouse Entertainment)

9/10



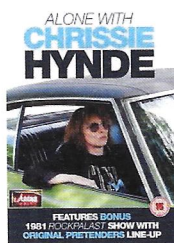
“We had these four women who were like sticks of dynamite and it was a feminist explosion onstage!” Tells filmmaker and musician Don Letts, about The Slits early performances in this new documentary. The film shows how the first all-female punk band called out to bottled-up teenage girls around the world and inspired them to pursue music and their own personal freedom. From Bikini Kill's Kathleen Hannah to The Raincoats Gina Birch, girls were unlocked from their stiff social shackles and given a powerful voice through their music. 41 years in the making, director William E Badgley (Kill All Redneck Pricks), turns his camera lens on a band hidden from history. The film shows how The Slits members Viv Albertine, Ari Up, Palmolive and Tessa Pollitt invented a new kind of music and used it to rebel against everything. Without boundaries and outside of pop, they determined themselves and terrified people. 'Here to be Heard' shines a bright light on these four women who were intruding popular culture, and brings their importance to the forefront.

Paula Frost

ALONE WITH CHRISSIE HYNDE

(Arena BBC)

7/10



A rock star since the late 70s, Chrissie Hynde is the center of this mellow documentary, revealing her life behind closed doors to be tranquil and mostly solitary. She pursues painting, milks cows at the manor George Harrison bought for Krishna devotees and visits her hometown of Akron, Ohio. One scene shows Chrissie having a difficult conversation with a pushy street artist as he draws her portrait. Chrissie later tells the film crew, "He's a con. But I can appreciate a good con and say touché. I've been conned many times." The interviewer replies: "I can't imagine you conning anyone though." Chrissie wittily says, "Well I conned you guys." With a mischievous smile. The film follows Chrissie across a year as she moves between Paris, London, New York and Nashville. She opens up about her life, her music and issues close to her heart. Things liven up when she's in the studio and on the road with The Pretenders and there's footage of the band at recording sessions in Nashville for the 'Alone' album, aside live performance clips of many album tracks including 'Brass in Pocket' and 'Back on the Chain Gang'. The movie also shows incredible footage from Sartory-Sale in Cologne, Germany in July 1981 with the original Pretenders lineup playing Rockpalast.

Pete Steel

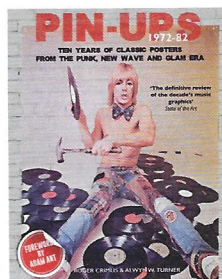
BOOKS

PIN-UPS 1972-82: TEN YEARS OF CLASSIC POSTERS FROM THE PUNK, NEW WAVE AND GLAM ERA

Roger Crimlis/Alwyn W. Turner

(Extradition Publishing)

9/10



Flick through Pin-ups and you can't help but be completely drawn in by the iconic images of Marc Bolan, Iggy Pop, Bowie, X Ray-Spex and so many others. This book features the golden age of rock 'n' roll photography laid beside first-hand accounts from the photographers who captured them and the artists within them.

Rediscover the adored pop posters of your teens in this neatly amassed collection with over 200 posters from the 70s and early 80s, celebrating a decade in music and style. From glam to punk and new wave to post-punk, these are the posters that hung on our walls, at the centre of our daydreams. The book features personal interviews with stars, photographers, artists and even the fly-posters who spread them. Alwyn Turner and Roger Crimlis, who also released the Cult Rock Posters books, have reissued this critically acclaimed volume with new images and insights. With posters featuring iconic images of timeless artists like Blondie, Ramones, The Damned, Adam Ant, Motörhead, Suicide and Lou Reed, it's a book you will be enjoying for years to come.

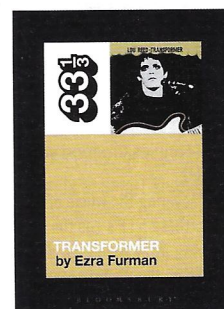
Paula Frost

33 1/3: TRANSFORMER

Ezra Furman

(Bloomsbury)

8/10



Transformer is a perfect quick read for punk rock commuters and busy city-slickers. If you're familiar with the 33 1/3 series, you'll know each book is centred around one iconic album, with lovingly told insights into the artist's life and environment when crafting it. 'Transformer' is Lou Reed's second solo studio album, considered his most enduring

popular album and is described as an influential landmark of the glam rock genre. Author Ezra Furman reminisces of his first hand experiences with the record, whilst exploring its power to cause Lou Reed's commercial breakthrough. A singer, songwriter and recording artist in his own right, Ezra is a California based writer who has released seven albums to critical acclaim. He delves into the album which sits between glam rock and proto-punk, with wounded lyrics about being gay. The book dedicates an entire chapter to Lou's relationship with Bowie, and a chapter to the story behind each of the album's songs, revealing the many facets of Lou's personality and bringing fans new insight into a timeless record.

Ivy Sparrow