

DVD Zone

ANTHRAX: MUSIC OF MASS DESTRUCTION

Sanctuary

While a band might say something that sounds like "This was our best show ever, and we were lucky to have the camera's rolling," what they're actually saying is, "We thought we might film a show for a live DVD, and this was the best one we shot that night." However, when Anthrax describes the show recorded for *Music Of Mass Destruction* as one of their best, they ain't lyin'.



Iggy & The Stooges: Live In Detroit

Shot on video at the December 5th, 2003 gig at Chicago's Metro, the set burns from the onset and never lets up, issuing striking blows to the gluteal region throughout. Songs such as "I Am The Law" and their cover of Joe Jackson's "Got The Time" are particularly impressive. The set closes with their signature tune "Bring The Noise," and while Public Enemy is nowhere to be seen, vocalist John Bush does just fine covering Chuck D's verbal wordplay on the song that arguably started the rap-metal genre.

The sound and video quality are top-notch, and the disc comes filled to the brim with special features. Each band member (with the exception of bassist Frank Bello) has a segment where the

camera crew follows them around, providing some great moments such as guitarist Scott Ian explaining his patented "spin" move. Two songs ("Fueled" and "Metal Thrashing Mad," not from the Metro show) get the multi-angle treatment, allowing the viewer to pick the camera angle, and there is also a segment on album cover

designer Alex Ross. It's great to see a band give a shout-out to the artists, because as everyone knows, it's the graphic designers that hold together the very fabric of any free society.

But seriously folks, when it gets down to where the rubber meets the road, *Music Of Mass Destruction* is one of the best music DVDs on the market. Just be careful if you order it through the mail.

Rating: ★★★★★

IGGY & THE STOOGES: LIVE IN DETROIT

Music Video Distributors

Reunion tours can be such a bitter-sweet affair, and if the reunion involves punk icons, it can be even more jarring. When classic rockers reunite, you pret-

ty much know what you're gonna get. I mean, does anyone really expect the members of Blue Öyster Cult to show up sans beer guts and receding hairlines? For some reason, though, punk is different. We want to keep the idols of our youth forever frozen in the moment that was captured in the poster on the wall: the sneer that gives a big F.U. to society, or the stage dive that tells the audience that it's us-against-them. For the ones that didn't make the career decision to die young, we want to know that they're alive and well, we just don't want to know that they've settled into a life of domestic middle-American bliss. It's an unfair expectation to be sure, but we have it.

So the reunion of glam-punk godfathers The Stooges chronicled on *Iggy & The Stooges: Live In Detroit* is a bit of a mixed bag.

On one hand, there's the ageless wonder of Iggy Pop, still doing what he has been doing for a lifetime and still pulling it off without a hitch. He's the same amp-humping, F-bomb-dropping self immortalized that he was in the '70s, and for that we thank him. Good turns on "1969" and "I Wanna Be Your Dog" (included twice on the set list) reassures us that come hell or high water, Iggy's always gonna be Iggy.

It's the rest of the band, however, that remind you that this is a reunion tour. While hired-gun bassist and former Minuteman Mike Watt, subbing for

the late Dave Alexander, shows signs of life, guitarist Ron Asheton and drummer Scott Asheton clearly appear to have better things to do. It's as if at certain points in the show you can see them glancing off-stage to make sure the paychecks are, in fact, waiting for them.

Shot on amateur video equipment that gives the whole thing a bootleg feel, *Live In Detroit* is passable enough as far as sound quality and direction is concerned, and the special features include an in-store appearance from the group and photo gallery.

Live In Detroit shows that while Iggy remains a force of nature, he may want to stay solo and let the rest of the Stooges go on about their lives.

Rating: ★★★

Also Available . . . Kelly Osbourne:

Live In London (Sanctuary) Hey kids, check it out! It's nepotism poster child Kelly Osbourne . . . and she's puttin' on a rock show! Come along as young Kelly tries to channel Gwen Stefani and prove to the world that if her dad can still do it, she can too. What you have to ask yourself, though, is would any of this be happening if her father weren't Ozzy and her life and family wasn't a pop culture joke. After you've asked yourself that, ask yourself why you've just wasted an hour and a half of your precious time watching.

TIMOTHY HIATT