

REVIEWS PUNK

This section covers non - Pistols products which I have enjoyed and may be of interest to Sex Pistols' fans.

Iggy & The Stooges Live in Detroit DVD Wienerworld WNRD2427

One of the great reunions of recent times began, unusually for a reunion, in the studio recording tracks for Iggy's album *Skull Ring* – the decision to play live again followed later. It was a good move, as this DVD illustrates. Recorded live in 2003, it was The Stooges homecoming after 29 years. Unable, due to legal wrangling, to perform any *Raw Power* material, their live shows draw primarily from *The Stooges* and *Funhouse*, which considering Ron Asheton played the lead guitars on them both (as opposed to James Williamson on *Raw Power*), makes perfect sense.

I'd always thought the Funhouse material to be hard going, but watching this DVD has changed my mind completely. Ron Asheton playing Loose, Down On The Street, and Dirt from the album, knocked me out. These songs now sound amazing, and as a direct result I've bought the expanded CD versions of both LP's. I'd never appreciated what a brilliant guitar player he was. It goes without saying that I Wanna Be Your Dog and 1969 are top moments, as is the stage invasion during Real Cool Time, which lasts the duration of No Fun without the band ever missing a note. Scott Asheton is great as well, totally committed. Iggy never fails to excel, and is animated, angry, hilarious, and focused. Mike Watt cannot be faulted either as the “new” bassist; he is a quirky individual with a style all his own.

The main extra worth shouting about is the Stooges' New York in-store gig, performed by Iggy and the Asheton brothers at the time of the reunion. Filmed from the side of the “stage” by a single camera, it has an appealing bootleg feel about it. It's a brilliant occasion and is a wonderful inclusion on the DVD. The visuals may be limited by the one static camera, (which gets repositioned early on to get Scott Asheton in shot), but it's an historic performance. Not only do the trio perform the classics, Iggy also talks about the songs themselves.

I was completely won over by this DVD. What more can I say?

Review by Phil Singleton (June 2007)