



## Lydia Lunch - Willing Victim

(Atavistic; [www.atavistic.com](http://www.atavistic.com))

This Lydia Lunch performance, filmed in Austria in 2003 and ominously subtitled "The Audience as Whipping Boy," finds the cheerleader of doom undertaking "a musical retrospective" that winds from her early pop (ha-ha) hits like "Orphans" and a seedily skewed remake of CCR's "Run Through the Jungle" to the anti-dance manifesto "Stinkfist." How much punishment you endure depends on how much you can stand Lunch's caterwauling, scouring, whipping, hectoring, complaining, ranting and raving delivery—I love it. Nels Cline's whirlybird guitars stir up the spare intros to declamatory Doors-y spoken-word-based epics like "Psychic Anthropology" and "Itch," and he manipulates volume-control waves on "The Void" ahead of Lunch's preacher sermon intensity and obliterating anger. I like the shadowy arpeggios of "Lock Your Door" and the febrile slink through Alice Cooper's "Black Jujū," which combine Lunch's scariest imprecations with the additional menace of haunting melodicism.

BONUSES: Nothing except brief clips from the Atavistic catalog.