

JERSEY BEAT #76

IGGY POP – *Live In San Fran 1981* (www.musicvideodistributors.com)

Everyone remembers Target Video for doing the Black Flag “TV Party” video, and the truly rough recording that was done for it. Now, with this move to DVD much of the same limitations in video technology really show their prevalence. Still, I’ll be damned if the music was anything less than perfect here. From the Page-laid bass lines that start out the concert and the rest of the music throughout, the recording quality is surprisingly good, transferred from a video that cuts out a number of times. To be honest, while some of the tracks during the course of the show are fan favorites (T.V. Eye and Lust For Life), a number of the tracks are a little more obscure and exciting to find (I’m A Conservative, for example) in such a vibrant form. More so than being a piece of history, this live set is completely vital and important in understanding how Iggy had matured in the space between The Stooges and the later revival of eir music. Here is someone that uses some of the biggest names in the industry (eir band includes members of Blondie and a future member of David Bowie’s band in 1981, Sum 41 in 2003) to make eir own idea of music. The music is simple, hard-hitting and this video will make a viewer want to be back in those halcyon days, sharing the experience with the rest of the filled Target.

– James McQuiston