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@ [2005-06-19](#) 08:34:00



### ***Iggy Pop! Live in San Fran 1981***

IGGY POP! LIVE IN SAN FRAN 1981

Directed by Joe Rees

(Target/MVD) <http://www.musicvideodistributors.com>

Recorded by a pair of handheld video cameras in what looks like a fairly small club, **Iggy Pop! Live in San Fran 1981** is an odd document from a career marked by strange twists and turns. Neither audio nor video are the greatest quality, with the latter resulting from the primitive set-up and the former suffering from a bad sound mix. Indeed, Iggy's voice itself isn't nearly high enough in the mix to be clearly heard. The rock legend was supporting his 1981 release **Party**, an album I've not heard personally but is generally regarded as one of his least successful. Though clad in a revolting/provocative mini-skirt/stockings/leather jacket outfit, Iggy seems strangely detached, as if he's having a hard time staying interested in either uninspired new material like "Houston is Hot Tonight" and "Rock and Roll Party" or older tunes like "Lust For Life" and "Dum Dum Boys." Or maybe he's deliberating underplaying his usual rock & roll animal persona—it's difficult to tell. All that said, though, there are sparks here. The band, a three-guitar lineup featuring David Bowie guitarist Carlos Alomar and Blondie drummer Clem Burke, seems thrilled to be treading the boards with the Igster, obviously playing their hearts out. Burke wavers between thundering like a freight train and simply playing like a man possessed. Driven by his boys, Iggy sometimes rises to the occasion; "I Need More," "T.V. Eye" and "1969" definitely generate some heat. Overall, though, this isn't the most scintillating item in the man's large catalog. **Iggy Pop! Live in San Fran 1981** is pretty much for completists only. *Michael Toland*

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