



**Devo** - *Live 1980* (DVD, [Music Video Distributors](#), Rock/pop)

Featuring an entire concert filmed with multiple cameras, *Live 1980* presents the original math rockers at their peak. This is the **Devo** that most people are familiar with, as the band had just released their *Freedom of Choice* album...otherwise known as the "upside down flower pot hat" phase. The first few songs of this concert might lead one to believe that this was a low energy event...but as the concert progresses things get more and more intense until the band is a complete ball of fire. Devo covered a lot of ground in this show. Some of the highlights include the intriguing "Swelling Itching Brain," the seldom heard "Pink Pussycat," a particularly rocking version of "Be Stiff," and the rousing and completely out-of-control "Gut Feeling/Slap Your Mammy." Devo were perhaps at their tightest in 1980. Combining top-notch musicianship with bizarre choreography, the band was completely out of synch with everything else that was happening at the time. In addition to the full-length concert, this disc also features two wonderful obscurities from the same year...versions of "Praying Hands" and "Shrivel Up" filmed in black and white. It is truly amazing how much the guitarists' movements in these clips resemble the *Lollipop Guild* welcoming you to *Munchkinland*. As if that weren't enough, if you flip the disc over you get the full audio segment of the show on CD. At a list price of \$14.95, this is a real *DEAL*. Recommended for Devo fans or anyone else who wasn't around to witness these guys at their peak. Amazing stuff. The band's 1980 mantra seems more relevant today than ever before: "*Freedom of choice is what you've got...Freedom from choice is what you want.*" So true. So very true. (Rating: 5+++)



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