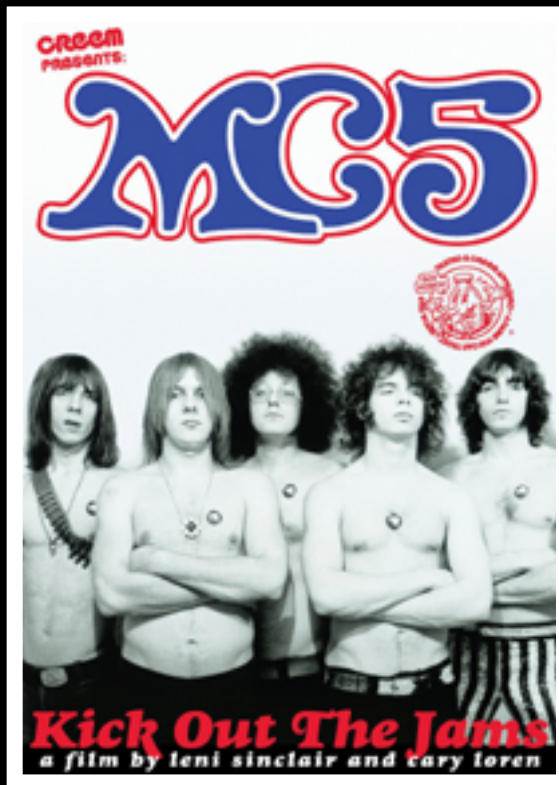


# MC5: KICK OUT THE JAMS

Directed by Leni Sinclair and Cary Loren

MVD



Look, despite a bitchin' 5:1 stereo mix, this is *not* the live **MC5** film you've been having wet dreams about since 1987. Or 1997. Or 1975, whatever. That's not to say you won't be tearing off your shirt and throwing shit off the roof while this one rolls out, because you probably will - after all, it's Motor Fucking City fucking Five, live and in the throes of the supersonic revolution. But the footage - shot on 16mm, and culled from 3 or 4 different shows in Detroit and Ann Arbor- is silent, so the songs run out of synch with the images. To compensate, **Sinclair** added lots of stock 60's psychedelic images, including lava-light bursts, protest marches, and Nixon Now pins, to kinda hippy the whole thing up.

The end result is more art-school-cool than riot in the streets rockumentary, but fuck, does the band ever *look* cool. It seems like such a

cliché, handing the mantle of authentic rock n' roll motherfuckery over to the MC5 and declaring 'em ground zero for every high-octane rock n' roll freakshow from 1966 onwards, from Guns N' Roses to the Hellacopters, but one look at this fuzzy, cock-eyed footage, and you'll **BELIEVE**, brother. Even the Stooges only had one Iggy - the Motor City Motherfuckers had **FIVE** hairy, scary freaks baiting the Detroit police and fanning the flames of teenage rampage. In these almost mystical flickering images, **Fred Sonic Smith** and **Rob Tyner** (RIP) both look like king daddy slither kings from the narcoglam mafia, and the MC3 are a trio of tough young punks, 10 years ahead of their time. There is much swinging of guitars, clapping of hands, and shaking of 'fros here, and all of it looks like the work of some visionary from 200 years away, imagining the ultimate bad-ass motherfucker band and conjuring the footage from some hi-tech retro-fitted studio on Planet Freakout. Only it's real. Holy fuckin' Christ, what a band!

Now if their lips just went with the music, we could start a church based on this DVD.

There's 11 songs here, including **Kick Out the Jams**, **Black to Comm**, **Rocket Reducer**, **Motor City Is Burning**, and **I Want You Right Now**. There's also a bonus 2003 interview with MC5 manager and 60's provocateur John Sinclair, who maps out the MC5 strategy over a Wimpy's sandwich in grainy black and white. It ain't a masterpiece, this DVD, but it's as close to the fire as most of us

are ever gonna get, so get those freak flags ready.

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*-Sleazegrinder, who really DID listen to this shit in high school, Jack.*

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