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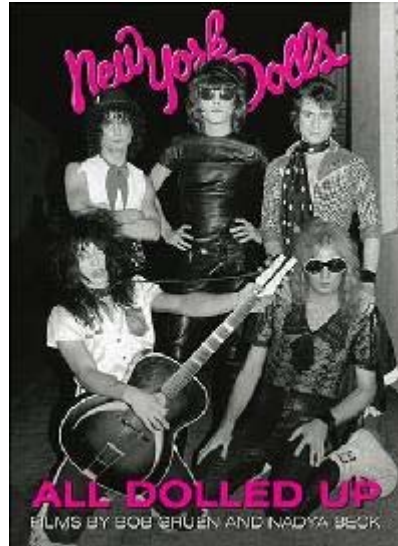
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It seems the New York Dolls star burned out too quickly. For a brief period they made their brand of sloppy, sleazy rock n roll, and then drifted away. The greater part of the band spent their remaining years in relative obscurity. For some reason this band, given their small musical output, has remained a constant. Even though the Dolls' time was short their influence lives on in every sleazy glam band. Groups like Poison and Star Star picked up where the New York Dolls left off, bringing their look and sound to the next generation.

Luckily, for those of us who couldn't be there, we now have "All Dolled Up". In the early 70's rock photographer Bob Gruen and his wife Nadya purchased a portable video recorder. The result is forty hours of New York Dolls video recorded over three years. For those of us who haven't the time to choke down forty hours of video, "All Dolled Up" nicely pares this down to about 95 minutes.

When you see video recorded 30 years ago, it's easy to say that it looks old. OK, I'll give you that. "All Dolled Up" presents black and white video in a fair quality for the time the video was taken. That's not to say that Gruen and Beck are not talented with the video equipment they used. The equipment and techniques available to them are used to great affect. We see the Dolls on a plane, backstage, in a disco, and of course on stage. "All Dolled Up" shows the Dolls at their best and most rowdy, and serves to document the power of this legendary band in an interesting manner.

Not only are we treated to a 90 minute plus documentary, but there are enough extras on "All Dolled Up" to amuse you for hours. There are two audio commentary tracks, one by each of the surviving New York Dolls, David Johansen and Sylvain Sylvain. There is also an interview with Bob Gruen conducted by Handsome Dick Manitoba of The Dictators. Gruen's interview covers the Dolls' notorious drug use, and the affect this had on the decline of band members, as well as most of the information in the liner notes. Along with all of this is a slideshow of photos, both familiar and rare.

"All Dolled Up" is a fitting homage to one of rock's most unforgettable bands. I am pleased to see this video available, and as a fan, I found this to be an intersting view.

Reviewed by: [Jim McDonald](#)

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