



New York Dolls –

All Dolled Up: Films by Bob Gruen and Nadya Beck
(DVD, [Music Video Distributors](#))

A remarkably effective look back at the **New York Dolls**. **David Johansen**, **Arthur Kane**, **Jerry Nolan**, **Sylvain Sylvain**, and **Johnny Thunders** hit their prime for only a short time, releasing one great album (*New York Dolls*) and one very good album (*Too Much Too Soon*). The band splintered into oblivion soon after, but not before leaving an indelible mark on rock and roll history. During the highest peak in the band's career, **Bob Gruen** and **Nadya Beck** were there...taping as much as they could with video cameras. As such, this DVD plays like what it is...home videos of an underground band on the verge of hitting it big. Although shot in black and white, the quality is excellent overall...and even the sound during the concerts is good. This DVD does not attempt to explain anything. There is no narrator (*thank God*) and no attempt is made to tie everything together. Instead, what we have here is a document of the band at their peak. The video says it all. Not only did Gruen and Beck shoot the band in concert but they also captured lots of behind-the-scenes footage of the guys just being themselves. There are some priceless moments here...not the least of which is a concerned young girl reminding Thunders to remember to take his vitamins (*haw haw!*). The band members smoke up a storm (in more ways than one), fidget with their hair almost constantly, and really ham it up for the camera. After viewing this, not only do you get the feeling that you know what it was like being at a New York Dolls concert...but you also feel as if you actually got to know the band personally. In addition to the disc, this package features a beautiful 16-page booklet filled with color photos. A lengthy loving tribute to one of the best..and most influential...bands of the 1970s. WELL DONE. (Rating: 5++)



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