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*This film is a fitting tribute to the New York Dolls not least because the band are also legendary but also because believe it or not*

**NEW YORK DOLLS****ALL DOLLED UP**

*Wienerworld ()*

The New York Dolls were almost legendary before they signed their first recording deal. Subsequently the band attained massive cult status to go along with their fame or should that be infamy? Whatever your thoughts on the Dolls the band were certainly able to generate more media coverage in a week than your average X Factor winner in twelve months.

This film is a fitting tribute to the New York Dolls not least because the band are also legendary but also because believe it or not until the release of this film no one has adequately set out the bands story out either in paper or celluloid. Filmed by Bob Gruen this film actually captures the essence of what it was that so attracted everyone to this bunch of musical misfits from New York.

Bob Gruen although himself a rock photographer is enough of a novice when it comes to moving picture to capture the band in all their rough and raw glory. Filmed over three years this film is actually a distillation of the forty plus hours of footage that Gruen shot. I am sure there would be many fans who would be more than happy to subject themselves to the full forty plus hours of footage.

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Personally I am not one of those fans although the latest period of Doll activity was brought about by arch fan Morrissey. This documentary however is possibly the last word on the legend that is the New York Dolls. Some of the early performances the band made are captured and it may be a cliché to say this but the energy really does leap out at you from the screen and you can more than see just what it was or is that attracted Morrissey and many others all those years ago. The DVD contains twelve full performances from the band and also features a commentary from Bob Gruen alongside the two surviving New York Dolls David Johansen and Sylvain Sylvain.

If you were perhaps curious about the band having heard the records and been intrigued about the legend or maybe even saw the band when they reformed a couple of years ago then this DVD would be a good place to start. Of course sadly four of the original members are now dead with Billy Murcia dying before the band even released their debut album. The story of the band does have resonance and is a story worth checking out.

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