



Browse the web faster. Get **Firefox** with **Google Toolbar**.

SITE  
SEARCH

FIN

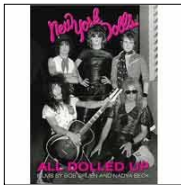
HOME CONTACT

## MUSIC

TOP 20  
Homepage  
Albums  
Singles & EPs  
Live  
Features  
Demos

## DVD

To view all DVD reviews [click here](#)



### New York Dolls

All Dolled Up

MVD Music Video

Fascinating glimpse into the world behind legendary 70s glam-punks, filmed by rock photographer Bob Gruen...

It's often been said that if everyone who's claimed to love the Dolls had actually bought their records at the time, they'd have been as big as Aerosmith. They were always a more amusing option; less slick, more punky, their glam glad-rags always reeked of the kindergarten dressing-up box and even their heroic substance abuse couldn't hide their sense of boyish innocence abroad.

But as the seventies ground onwards they petered out, exhausted by fast living and precious little success. One of the saddest spectacles on this DVD is late publicity shot of the exhausted band uniformed in red PVC by Malcolm McLaren, the old chancer desperately fanning their dying flame in order to further his own designs.

But in the band's glory days, they set underground rock clubs alight from NYC to LA, toting glamorous groupies like Sable Starr and Janet Planet, surviving on attitude. The music was never up to much, but they were great entertainment - and on this DVD the gritty glamour of their early performances have been captured in black-and-white by notable snapper Bob Gruen, whose early videocamera captured 40 hours of footage.

Main event on the DVD is the film by Griuen and his wife Nadya Beck, incorporating onstage stuff with backstage footage and reminiscence - and including optional commentary tracks from frontman David Johansen, guitarist Sylvain Sylvain and Gruen himself. Twelve songs are also available in full and although the technical quality's a long way from today's standards it's a fascinating record of the way things used to be.

Almost more revealing, though, is the fascinating gallery of still photos - accompanied by reminiscences from Gruen which shed light on the people and the backstory.

It's a shame the DVD has nothing to say about what came next - Johansen's excellent solo albums or his ill-judged foray into comedy jazz as Buster Poindexter, or Morrissey's attempted resuscitation of the band for 2004's Meltdown festival. But whether you're a diehard fan, a curious bystander or a student of musical history, you'll get something out of this package.

By Clare O'Brien

This release was published on 23 Jan 2006.

## DAMN NEW

### FEATURES

The Posies - Ken Stringfellow, Vocalist/Guitarist...[read more](#)

Four Day Hombre - Simon Wainwright, vocalist / guitarist / pianist...[read more](#)

Aids Wolf - Special Deluxe, vocalist ...[read more](#)

### ALBUMS

Various Artists - Rough Trade Shops Counter Culture Compilation...[read more](#)

The Arctic Monkeys - Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I Am...[read more](#)

That Fucking Tank - Day Of Death By Bono Adrenaline Shot...[read more](#)

### LIVE

The Academy Is..., Panic! At The Disco and The Junior Varsity - Glasgow Cathouse, 20/01/2006...[read more](#)

DJ Format - London, La Scala 15/12/05...[read more](#)

P.O.L.E. Club - New Cross Inn, 323 New Cross Road ...[read more](#)



Browse the web faster. Get **Firefox** with **Google Toolbar**.

Copyright © Subba-Cultcha.com

ADVERTISING CONTACT