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# Live: CBGB 1982

Bad Brains

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## Review

by Greg Prato

It's common knowledge amongst punk and hardcore fans that one of the greatest live acts of all-time was the mighty Bad Brains. But unless you were lucky to have witnessed the original line-up during the '80s, you were in danger of having missed the legend. Bad Brains performances post late-80's hit-or-miss affairs (due in large part to their unpredictable singer, **H.R.**). Now, there is finally proof that backs up the aforementioned claim - the fantastic 2006 DVD 'Live: CBGB 1982.' During the holiday season of 1982, the Bad Brains performed a trio of shows (supported by the likes of **Minor Threat** and the pre-**Beastie Boys** band, **the Young and the Useless**) at their home away from home, CBGB's. The shows were wild and widely praised as among the finest the group ever did. Compiling standout performances from the three shows, you get a faithful snapshot of the pandemonium of a punk/hardcore show from around this time – slam dancers often storm the stage and scream lyrics into the mic. The band is at the top of their game - especially **H.R.** - as they switch off between explosively high energy readings of the punk classics "Big Take Over," "Right Brigade," "Banned in D.C.," and "Pay to Cum," as well as such reggae detours as "King of

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Live: CBGB 1982

**Rating**

★★★★★

**Release Date**

Sep 19, 2006

**Label**

Music Video Distributors

**Type**

Video, Live

**Genre**

Rock

**AMG Album ID**

R 849046

[Corrections to this Entry?](#)

Glory," "The Meek," and "Rally Round Jah Throne." The camera work may be a bit jumpy – it appears to be mostly a two-camera shoot (a stationary camera from behind the audience and a handheld camera on-stage) – and the cameramen hardly ever shoot bassist **Darryl Jenifer** at all. Regardless, 'Live: CBGB 1982' makes it all the more baffling why the Bad Brains are one of rock's all-time most underrated live acts – there's simply no comparison between the quartet's performance here and the majority of performances by other rock bands from this era.

**Releases**

Year	Type	Label	Catalog #
2006	DVD	Music Video Distributors	4497
2006	CD	Music Video Distributors	505

