



BB bassist Darryl Jenifer says the core-tet's going to release a new CD.

Ocasek famously, and improbably, produced their 1983 album "Rock for Light," which whipsawed from blazing hardcore to fluid reggae and back. And Beastie Boy Adam Yauch produced the band's forthcoming as-yet-untitled album.

But in 1982, Bad Brains were the unofficial house band of CBGB, ground zero for New York punk. "We had this concept of PMA — positive mental attitude — staying positive, achieving goals," Jenifer said. "We outgrew D.C. and moved on to New York." (Though their song "Banned in D.C." may be closer to the truth.)

"Back then, it was all about the music. We'd play some shows and get enough money to buy mac and cheese, and these chicken wings they used to sell ten for a dollar down on the east side. That's how we survived," he said.

The DVD, shot on Christmas Eve 1982, shows a band from another planet — Rastas wielding blazing riffs, a controlled explosion of spiritual energy, unfeigned chaos, at once uplifting and terrifying. The goal, said Jenifer, was "just to blow up the scene with music." This is the first film dedicated to the band, whose like has not been seen since. **BOB MASSEY**

→ *Black Cat*, 1811 14th St. NW; Thu., 9 p.m. \$3; 202-667-7960. (U St.-Cardozo)



A still from the faith- and redemption-soaked Peruvian drama "Madeinusa."

Become Fluent in Latin Film

FILM | Searching for the next Iran, Hong Kong or Hollywood? Behold the cinematic offerings of the 17th Annual Washington Latin American Film Festival, which hit like a tropical storm this week, bringing 18 days of movies from the region.

Some of this year's highlights include "Al Aura," a broody and brutal film noir from the late Argentinean director Fabien Bielinsky ("Nine Queens"); the 1991 debut of "Y Tu Mama Tambien" director Alfonso Cuaron, "Sólo con Tu Pareja"; "El Inmortal," the story of family riven by the Nicaraguan Contra war, from Spain; and the bizarre Brazilian "Dry Movie," which puts Albert Camus into David Lynch territory.

The shorts program screens next weekend and offers some of the festival's most innovative work. Nowhere else will you find a meticulously difficult animation technique to tell the story of a snake with mushroom-induced hallucinations ("Hler Cine Terminta" by Nicolas Forero Martinez) or a four-minute treatise on the dangerous allure of nuclear weapons ("Double Speech"). **ARIAN BERGER (EXPRESS)**

→ *AFI Silver*, 8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; through Oct. 8; 301-495-6700. (Silver Spring)

See for Yourself

Legendary hardcore act Bad Brains rocks CBGB in a new film

FILM | If Bad Brains had never come into existence in 1979, they could not be imagined. Any fiction writer who posited a virtuosic, aggressive, world-changing punk band peopled by four black kids from Southeast

would be ridiculed. It's an impossible notion.

"We liked go-go and Sly & the Family Stone," said Bad Brains bassist Darryl Jenifer. "But our heads were open to explore. We discovered the Dead Boys and the Ramones and we saw the freshest style of rock. Punk rock just gave us the freedom to do what we want. I thought we could graft on a little

Stevie Wonder style."

So they did. A new live DVD, which screens at the Black Cat tonight, shows a young band decades ahead of its time. Maybe that's why Bad Brains members are legends, not stars.

But stars lead the cult of die-hard fans — among them Flea, Henry Rollins, Billy Corgan and Billie Joe Armstrong. The Cars' Rick

Gigs on Don Dokken's Docket

Pop-metal maestro offers hits to mark 25 years of Dokken

MUSIC | Don Dokken is quite busy these days. Not only is the Dokken vocalist currently working on the new Dokken album, as well as an album of recently uncovered old live material, a compilation album and a new solo album, but he's also gearing up to play two shows at Jaxx this Friday and Saturday to celebrate his band's 25th anniversary.

"The Jaxx shows are not part of a full tour; they are something special we are doing," he explained. "Since

it's only two shows, as opposed to a whole tour, we don't really have to pace ourselves so much. We can really go all out with a lot of intensity for a long set. I think it's going to be really cool."

According to Dokken, the band plans to play set lists at the Jaxx shows designed to please casual and hardcore Dokken fans alike. "Of course, we'll be doing stuff like 'Into the Fire' that everyone expects to hear, but we'll also get to do some other Dokken songs like 'Maddest Hatter' that we love to play that maybe only the most serious fans will know."

Dokken's latest studio album,



The world holds its breath as it waits for George Lynch to rejoin Dokken.

"Hell to Pay," came out more than two years ago. The frontman said he's taking the band in a different direction this time around. "The new songs are pretty heavy, but also we have a more retro kind of vibe going on. Even the recording process is more retro — we are using analog tapes instead of digital recording methods." **GREGORY RE**

→ *Jaxx*, 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield; with *Bloodlines*, *Wicked Stick*, *Hellenback*, *Twist of Fate Fri.*; with *The Dropoutz*, *Wicked Sins*, *Kid Wicked*, *Concrete Prophet Sat.*, 7:30 p.m., \$25 in advance, \$28 at the door; 703-569-5940.