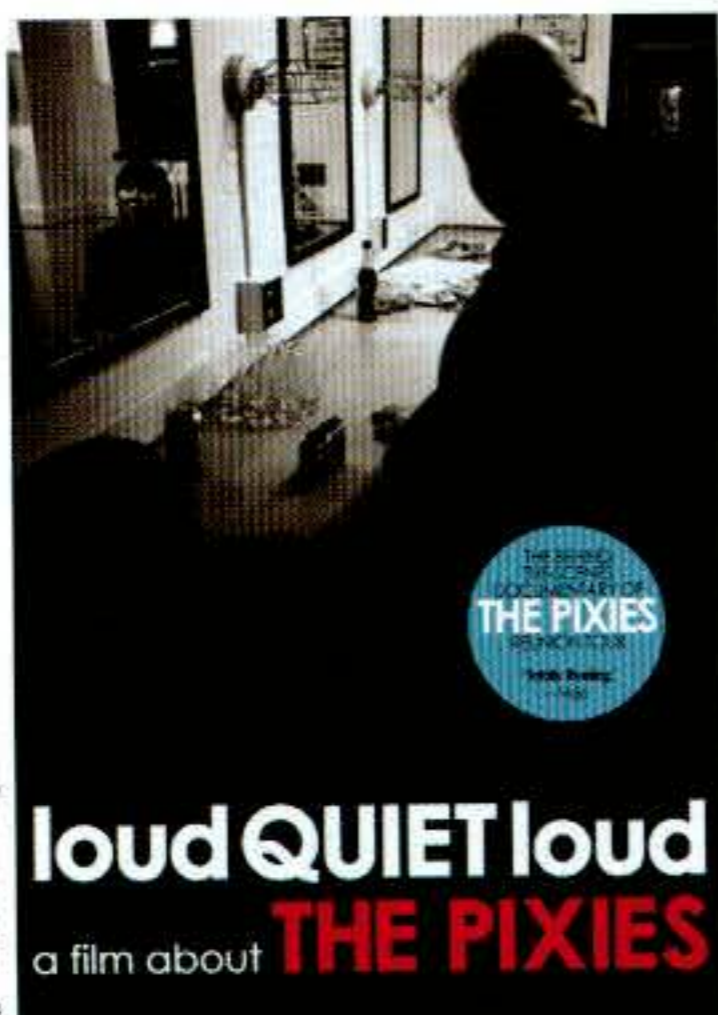


The Pixies

loudQUIETloud

MVD VISUAL



by Christian Cipollini

During the 80s new wave era, one band truly inspired later generations of musicians and fans, garnering outspoken homage paid in return. Best considered in a category of "college rock" (an edgier sound that rang with tinges of punk, blues and alternative rock while remaining thoroughly melodic), The Pixies were that band. Not chart-topping even during that heyday, this band created music that lasts... long after their union did.

The band was ended by the early 90s, and therefore didn't therefore get to enjoy the rewards of what they ultimately inspired to come next — alt rock/grunge. In 2004 however, they decided to take a stab at reuniting for a few tour dates. *loudQUIETloud* is a vision filmmakers Steven Cantor and Matthew Galkin had when they first heard the highly-influential band was going to proceed.

Following the four original members on their eight-show trek, this documentary unveils some of the nuances many longtime followers may have already expected. The Pixies just didn't have a whole helluva lot in common as four individuals, and they still don't. Nevertheless, as the film demonstrates, sometimes the potential economic gain from such a reunion is a very motivating factor for putting some issues off — at least for a little while.

LoudQUIETloud is a fairly frank look into the side of this sort of project that isn't often seen by the public. What this documentary isn't, however, is a "concert" video. No, there actually aren't that many live concert moments, and for those that are incorporated — we're not talking about full-length songs, simply snippets.

My Morning Jacket

Okonokos

Live Concert DVD



by Lauren Proctor

The My Morning Jacket *Okonokos* DVD is a good thing gone wrong. It features over two hours of music, but any power My Morning Jacket may have is stripped from them with the DVD's external premise.

Okonokos begins with a group of bad actors dressed up and congregating in the home of a southern aristocrat. The camera follows a displaced young man as he filters through the party. The man sees a llama, leads it outside, and sees a light. This light is of course, the *Okonokos* concert.

The concert itself is crisp and transcending. My Morning Jacket, known for their innovative sound and boundless live show, deliver an amazing performance. Multicolored lights compliment the concert and camera angles and shots only enhance the concert's power and energy.

Unfortunately, the director never allows the concert to elevate viewers to another place. Just as My Morning Jacket's atmospheric sound begins to sweep the viewer off his/her feet, the camera pans back to the llama and awkward man. Whether he's drenched in sweat and rocking out, or swaying gently with his eyes rolled back in his head, this man's simple presence distracts from what could be an incredible DVD. And we're not even touching the bear attack that happens at the DVD's conclusion.

If you can look beyond the bear, llama, and insistent presence of the goofy guy in a top hat, then you might consider the *Okonokos* DVD. Otherwise, don't waste your time with such foolishness. Instead, go see this incredible band live in concert.