



• ...THREE P's: THE PIXIES, PRIMUS AND THE PLASMATICS...

Reviews by Scott Jason



loudQUIETloud: a film about THE PIXIES
85 mins +
MVD

If you don't know who The Pixies were/are, then you've been hiding under a rock for nearly 20 years or listening to too much hip-hop and what they call R n B these days. Basically, they paved the way for Nirvana and other bands of that ilk, and when they broke up in 1992, legions of fans (and Pixies fans could be really fanatical) were shocked and dismayed; to some it was like the death of Elvis—an era was over forever. Well, not so. When do rock bands ever stay dead? (even if half of them are dead, like The Who; you can't help thinking Pete "I'm a whore" Townsend would keep on touring even if Daltrey died...) They always reform when the need money—or are addicted to it like Townsend seemingly is. So in 2004, The Pixies reunited and decided to tour.

For the uninitiated, The Pixies are: Charles Thomson (aka, Black Francis/Frank Black), Kim Deal, Joey Santiago and David Lovering; frontman, bassist, guitarist and drummer, respectively. With the exception of Deal, who was doing well with the Breeders, the group she formed with twin sister Kelley, the other band members were hurting financially and otherwise: Frank Black was facing the ignominy of a career slide; Santiago was struggling with being a married parent with mounting responsibilities and a dwindling bank account; and Lovering had quit playing drums to pursue hobbies like metal-detecting (!) and being a stage magician. But Deal had a cross to bare, too: she's a recovering alcoholic. When they broke up in 1992, it was acrimonious; getting back together was easy—hey, we're stars now, we can make a lot of money! But watching this fine film, it soon becomes apparent these are four people who really don't like each other a whole lot, can barely stand to be in a room together and only manage small talk. Yeesh! And it looks so much fun to be an alternative rock

star! However, once you get them on stage, you can't believe the transformation: they are One (try imagining U2 without Adam or Larry). Pretty soon, the tensions within the band threaten to destroy the tour, and kudos to The Pixies for allowing such a candid look inside their inner workings.

I don't usually get wild and crazy about recommending movies, but this is one you should see whether you like The Pixies' music or not. For my money, the best documentary I saw this year.

- [\\$14.99 at Amazon](#)