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Last Updated: January 8, 2007 11:22 AM

DIAMOND HEAD
To the Devil His Due (MVD)

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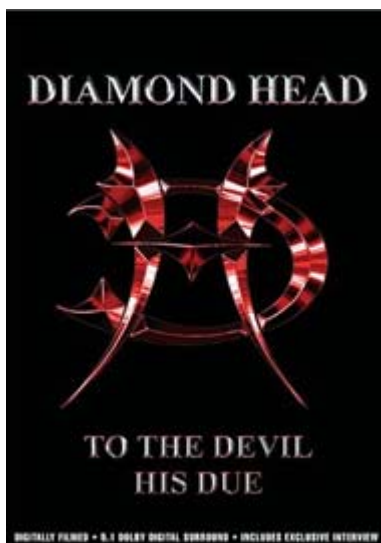
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Many metal fans recognize the name **DIAMOND HEAD** as the band that got international notice when **METALLICA** covered "Helpless", "It's Electric", and "Am I Evil". As this DVD shows, those in the know about the New Wave of British Heavy Metal (NWOBHM) realize that the group

had more than a handful of songs that included killer riffs and memorable melodies, and that includes some of the newer material. Energized from momentum gained in later years, thanks to continued name-dropping from the likes of the **Ulrich/Hetfield** boys and **MEGADETH**, guitarist **Brian Tatler** refused to let the band die.

"**To the Devil His Due**" captures the band on the 25th anniversary of the NWOBHM at the London Astoria on November 4, 2005. Though long-time vocalist **Sean Harris** left **DIAMOND HEAD**, his replacement, **Nick Tart**, does an admirable job of filling his shoes on stage at the Astoria. The vocalist offers a youthful injection with an animated stage presence and a soulful voice. If nothing else, "**To the Devil His Due**" attests to the band's arsenal of strong songs, beyond the above mentioned **METALLICA** cover tunes. Twin leads, dueling solos, and some fine boogie metal moments (e.g. "**The Prince**") make for a fun viewing/listening session. Even "**Mine All Mine**" from 2005's "**All Will be Revealed**" is worthy of your attention. The sound and picture quality is better than average — nothing flashy, but the camera work is strong.

It is during the interview segment that a slew of memories from, among others, the pre-**METALLICA** days are brought forth. **Tatler** tells the fascinating tale of then 17-year old **Lars Ulrich** traveling to England to see a **DIAMOND SHOW** and ultimately staying with the band for a week afterwards. A hugely successful latter-day tour supporting **MEGADETH**, discussion of the NWOBHM era, and a variety of other tidbits, including **Tony Iommi's** guest playing on "**Starcrossed**" (from 1993's "**Death and Progress**"), are included in the segment.

"**To the Devil his Due**" is perhaps not essential, but certainly should be of interest to those wishing to learn a bit more about the lesser-known bands of the NWOBHM explosion. It will also interest anyone that yearns for the sound of a quality melodic heavy metal band.

- **Scott Alisoglu**

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COMMENT | 'AWESOME DVD , DIAMOND HEAD ARE LEGENDS'

posted by : RiotAct666

12/29/2006 4:59:21 PM

It gets a 10 from me.

