



www.fulvuedrive-in.com



REVIEWS

ESSAYS

INTERVIEWS

CONTACT

STAFF

RATINGS SYSTEM

SEARCH

Category: [Home](#) > [Reviews](#) > [Concert](#) > [Rap](#) > [Hop Hop](#) > Public Enemy - It Takes A Nation: The First London Invasion Tour 1987

## CURRENT REVIEWS

### IN STORES SOON

- >Butterflies - Series One (BritCom)
- >Milano Rovente (Gang War In Milano, 1973)
- >Two's Company - The Complete Third Series
- >The House Of Elliott - Series One
- >Summer's Lease (British Mini-Series)
- >Game Over - The Complete Collection
- >Yellow Asphalt
- >ABC Africa (Documentary)
- >Disco - Spinning The Story
- >Hip Hop By Da Bay
- >Agatha Christie's Poirot - The Classic Collection (Acorn)
- >The Nomi Song (Documentary)
- >Kurt Cobain: Music Box Biographic Collection
- >Rosemary & Thyme - Series One

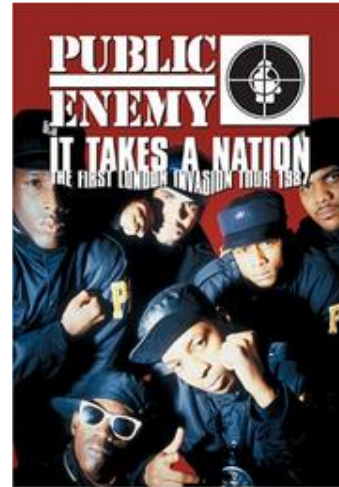
### IN STORES NOW

- >The Detective (1968)
- >Noam Chomsky - Rebel Without A Pause
- >Classic Albums: Never Mind The Bollocks - Here's The Sex Pistols
- >The Creation Of The Universe (PBS)
- >The Longest Yard - Lockdown Edition
- >In Living Color - Season Three
- >Classic Albums: Judas Priest - British Steel
- >Jericho/The Ghostbreaker (Limited CD)
- >Fat Actress - The Complete First Season
- >"H" (2002/South Korea/Tartan)
- >Amityville Horror Collection Giftset (MGM)
- >Have Gun - Will Travel: The Complete Second Season

## Public Enemy – It Takes A Nation:

### The First London Invasion Tour 1987

Picture: C Sound: B- Extras: B- Main Programs: B-



It is with some irony that **Public Enemy – It Takes A Nation: The First London Invasion Tour 1987** comes to DVD at a time when Rap is in such deep trouble as an art form. Here is one of the greatest groups the genre ever had, in peak form, expanding in their first trip in the United Kingdom, where post-modern R&B has had a uniquely influential and interesting result in British Electronica and turntablists that tend to be as creative as anywhere in the world.

Chuck D, Flava Flav and the crew are loaded with energy and ideas in their peak, many of which seem challenging and makes one wonder what happened with their "revolution". The band was at the peak of their creative, subversive, dynamic and commercial powers, two years away from more exposure in Spike Lee's landmark **Do The Right Thing** and its stunning opening credits. This is what Hip Hop is really all about, less bling-bling and more kinetic power and action. The documentary part is dubbed a "movie" and plays only 48:29, while the concert is an even shorter 36:06, though it packs in quite a performance. The songs include:

- 1) *Too Much Posse*
- 2) *Bring The Noise*
- 3) *My Uzi Weighs A Ton*
- 4) *Right Starter*
- 5) *Rebel Without A Pause*
- 6) *You're Gonna Get Yours*
- 7) *Timebomb*
- 8) *Public Enemy #1*

Seeing this was bittersweet because it reminds us about the promise Hip Hop once had before the bling-bling burnout, that like Rock music before it, some key social change might have been possible, despite the militant/separatist tone of the band and its many songs. This was the legitimate outgrowth of Hip Hops roots. Maybe it is time to turn back Flav's oversized necklace clock and pick up where all this left off. This DVD offers enough material to make that trip back possible.

The letterboxed 1.78 X 1 videotaped image throughout shows its age, but the source material is consistent nevertheless, though the pastiness makes this an average presentation visually overall. Dolby Digital 5.1 is only on the "movie" documentary part, while the rest of the audio is Dolby 2.0 Stereo, aged as it might be. Expect mixed sonics at best. Extras include an

## MARKET PLACE

>Hour Of The Gun (1967)  
>Fat Albert & The Cosby Kids  
- The Original Animated Series  
V.1  
>The Best Of Everything (1959/  
DVD-Video)

Australian segment running 6:48, 1:34 stills gallery set to music and audio commentary by Chuck D himself that was better than expected, coming from a well-spoken innovator to begin with. The question is, do Hip Hop fans and artists today consider this "old school" or not? Maybe they ought to consider this a missed lesson. It could not hurt.

- Nicholas Sheffo

Copyright © MMIII through MMV fulvuedrive-in.com