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METROLIFE-

A true Rasta masterpiece



energy and classic roots reggae, the hard-hitting and raw Rockers arguably surpasses The Harder They Come as a reggae

film that also comments on the daily struggle of Jamaicans during the 1970s. Documentary-like in style many of the 'actors' play their real-life characters, such as main-man Leroy 'Horsemouth' Wallace a ska-reggae drummer who, despite being a session musician for Studio One, playing with Burning Spear and selling records door to door, barely makes ends meet. When his motorbike is stolen by gangsters, Horsemouth embarks upon a Robin Hood-style heist of the local mafia, redistributing the swag among his community. It's Rastafarianism taking on capitalism, with appearances, performances and a soundtrack from golden age reggae's biggest names, including Burning Spear, Peter Tosh, Bunny Wailer, Dillinger, Jah Youth and The Heptones. Outstanding. Extras: Director's commentary, producer interview, exhaustive biogs, original trailers and posters. Rahul Verma



The Later... DVD series is proving a profitable sideline. Pick a musical genre, bung together a load of relevant clips from the past 13 years of the Later... With

MUSIC DVDS

Rockers: 25th Anniversary Edition Wiener, 15, 100min, £17.99 ★★★★ Later... World

Warner, 132min, £14.99

Serge Gainsbourg: D'Autres Nouvelles Des Etoiles Universal, 280min, £19.99 ★★★☆

Jools Holland show and voilà. The eighth in the series, Later ... World, is a collection of 33 performances and the artists are overwhelmingly African - from giants such as Youssou N'Dour, Mory Kanté and Ladysmith Black Mambazo to more recent discoveries, such as the rock'n'roll Touaregs, Tinariwen, whose hypnotic performance even overcomes the rather antiseptic surroundings of the studio. The rest is made up of cursory nods to other parts of the world, including a bizarre 1994 performance from the strangely costumed Le Mystère Des Voix Bulgares, Overall, it works as a good introduction to this vaguest of musical genres, but it would have benefited greatly from some biographical notes on the artists. Extras: Jukebox function.

Siobhan Murphy



The original enfant terrible, Serge Gainsbourg, could hardly have asked for a more thorough retrospective of his

30-year career. From the dapper,



Rebels with a cause: Richard 'Dirty Harry' Hall, left, and Leroy 'Horsemouth' Wallace star in reggae film Rockers

early black and white television performances to the worse-for-wear look of his later live shows and videos, his dedication to what he called the 'equilateral triangle... of Gitanes, alcoholism and girls' never waned. On this mammoth two-DVD sct, D'Autres Nouvelles Des Etoiles we get 80 songs from TV shows and concerts, including the whole of his Histoire De Melody Nelson concept album with Jane Birkin, plus duets with Catherine Deneuve, Anna Karina and Brigitte Bardot. There are also interviews, though sadly not his legendary 'I want to

f*** you' encounter with Whitney Houston. We also get his foray into reggae in the 1980s and the two very dubious videos with his daughter Charlotte.

Extras: English subtitles, though disappointingly not on the songs.

Ben Sloan

