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Live From Tokyo (MVD Visual)

By

<u>Upchuck Undergrind</u> – September 18, 2011**Posted in:** Reviews



"Live from Tokyo," subtitled "a documentary about underground music," is a sparkling, riveting piece of indie music exploration. No one who pays any attention to mass pop culture is unaware of the fiercely singular nature of Japanese pop culture. But for every weird-whatthe-fuck-is-that thing that sloshes across American satellite, there is some sincerely badass mindbending underground music carving its important niche in the underground music scene. The music varieties herein are numerous; eclecticism is a handy tool to have in your psychic toolbox. Openmindedness will suffice. The film is beautifully, if garishly shot, but this is all in keeping of the loud, bright pop culture in which we are being immersed. Generous heapings of recorded footage of various bands plying their trade – and what a trade it is! Genre-mashing leads to transcendent elevation into nu music modes. It's mesmerizing. Lovely music is also freely scattered throughout the movie during interviewing segments – and there are plenty of these as well. This is a top notch indie doc about indie music that offers both enlightening exposure to new music but also insight into the culture from whence it springs. Marvelous!

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