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Video: Live From Tokyo

Rating for Live From Tokyo: * * * * *

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The streets are filled to the brim with festival goers for the Toronto International Film Festival, but that doesn't mean some of our regular features are going to go by the way side here at examiner.com. As we do here every Monday (or Tuesday) it is time for another installment of 'Music Movie Mondays'. On this edition we take an in-depth look at the music culture and scene of one of the world's most vibrant cities. It's time for "Live From Tokyo".

"Live From Tokyo" is a vivid look at Tokyo's music culture as a reflection of Japanese society and its relation to international music culture. Tokyo's reputation for an overwhelming variety of global information, media-saturated urban environment and cutting edge innovation, makes it the perfect sample for addressing a new outlook on music culture as it explores this eccentric music culture set within a modern Japanese megalopolis.

This documentary was an interesting exploration of a popular musical culture that has been primarily borrowed from other countries and reinvented to the point that it is uniquely their own. With the underground scene in Tokyo their influences and musical interests range to everything from straight up rock & roll to getting inspiration from video games. A lot of these bands seem to perform more as visual installations rather than straight up bands, as the culture strives to push the boundaries and create something new and interesting, for a spontaneous creation of sound.



Most common music fans would be hard pressed to say that they have heard of any of the artists feature in this documentary "Live From Tokyo", but as a fan it is always inspiring and interesting to see people trying something new.

3 out of 5 stars.

"Live From Tokyo" should be available at video & record stores across Toronto, click here or here for more details, however if you are really interested in picking this DVD up, I'd recommend an online retailer like seeofsound.com.

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