

CINEMA SENTRIES

[LATEST POSTS](#) [TOPICS](#) [ABOUT](#) [CONTRIBUTORS](#) [LEADERBOARD](#) [LOGIN](#) [JOIN](#)

Public Image Limited: Live at Rockpalast DVD Review: A Must for PiL Fans

When John Lydon formed Public Image Ltd. in 1978, nobody knew what to make of it at first. With the implosion of the Sex Pistols and the death of Sid Vicious, it first appeared that he was taking a step back from the abyss. And since the first PiL album has never been issued in the States (to this day), fans had little to go on but word of mouth. That all changed with the release of *Metal Box/Second Edition* though. The music Lydon, Jah Wobble, Keith Levene, and Jim Walker were making was some of the most amazing stuff out there. A lot of people consider PiL to be the first “post-punk” group, and I am one of them.

The third and final album to be recorded with Wobble and Levene was *The Flowers of Romance* in 1981. With so much talent in the band, squabbles were inevitable. Wobble, Levene, and Walker had all left PiL by 1983. It is too bad, because that was the year that the new DVD *Public Image Limited* (not properly abbreviated): *Live At Rockpalast* was filmed.

Even with three-quarters of the original members gone, this was a great time to catch PiL live. For one thing there are the drums. Jim Walker had been replaced by Martin Atkins after the first album, and he brought a whole other thing to the game. At this show they perform material from the first three records, and throw in a couple of curve-balls as well. The performance took place at Zeche Bochum, Germany on Halloween night, 1983. PiL take the stage to the strains of “Public Image,” which they repeat at the end of the evening as their closer. In between we are treated to 11 songs, and every one is delivered with a powerful menace.

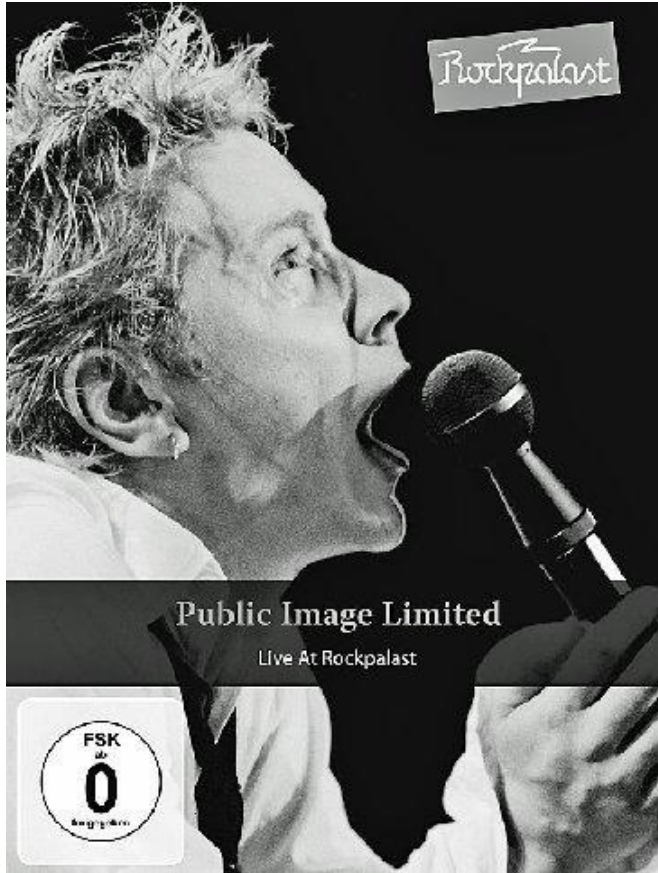
2 Online

Translate

Share

Tweet < 0

Join Chat



Like 115

“Annalisa,” “Religion,” and “Low Life.” From *Metal Box* the group pulls “Memories,” and “Chant.” And from *The Flowers of Romance* we are treated to the title track and “Under The House.” Surprises include a run-through of The Pistols’ “Anarchy In The UK,” and a preview of what would become PiL’s big hit single, “(This Is Not A) Love Song.”

Apparently this concert has been previously available on VHS, and the quality of it was terrible. Not so with this DVD. It is obvious that the people at MIG had access to the masters because both the video and audio of the performance is superb. There are two bonus

features included. The first is an interview with Lydon by *Rockpalast* host Alan Berg. The second features candid footage of the group rehearsing for the concert.

Although it would have been nice to see the original lineup of PiL in action, it does not appear that there is any footage (other than poor-quality bootlegs) of them available. *Live At Rockpalast* will do nicely though. Both the songs chosen and the performances of them are incredible, and present Lydon at the top of his game. This is a must for PiL fans.

BY GREG BARBRICK

Posted on Monday, March 19, 2012, by [Greg Barbrick](#)

Tags: concert film rockpalast pil john lydon

About the author

2 Online

Translate

Share

Tweet 0

Join Chat

-
-
- Tw
- Tw
- Tw
- Tw
- Tw
- Tw
- C
- L
- Gc
- Ne
- Gc
- Ne
- Gc
- Ne
- Gc
- Ne
- Gc
- Ne
- R
- L
- Tw
- Gc
- Ne
- Tw
- Gc
- Ne
- Tw
- P
- L
- Tw
- Gc
- Ne
- Tw
- Gc
- Ne
- {

Like < 115

MORE FROM GREG BARBRICK

Hell Boats DVD Review: An Island-Based, Low-Budget Dirty Dozen

Suds, bullets, and boats during World War II.

Posted on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, by [Greg Barbrick](#)

[Read More](#)

Pianomania DVD Review: Surprisingly Compelling Study of a Master Piano Technician

I will never watch or listen to a great pianist quite the same way again.

Posted on Saturday, March 10, 2012, by [Greg Barbrick](#)

[Read More](#)

Vanya on 42nd Street Criterion Collection DVD Review: Chronicling the Last Days of Multiple Eras

Not everything is always as it appears.

Posted on Sunday, March 4, 2012, by [Greg Barbrick](#)

[Read More](#)

0 Comments

Hey you aren't logged in, [login](#) or enter your info below.

2 Online

[Translate](#)

[Share](#)

[Tweet](#) < 0

[Join Chat](#)

J
L
Tw
Tw
Tw
Tw
Tw
R
C
Dc
Trc
C
Dc
Fa
C
M
C
Dc
Th
C
Dc
Tw
htt
T
Cc
Cc
?T
Je:
my

C
Dc

Like < 115

Don't have an account? Get one [here](#).

Name:

Email (Will not be used):

Comment:

Submit

4096

characters left

A
T
Cc
Cc
It v
wa
T
Cc
Cc
Th
lan
aci

2 Online

Translate

Share

Tweet < 0

 Join Chat



Follow Us

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

[Follow us on Facebook](#)

[Grab our RSS](#)

Forward Media Network

[TV Geek Army](#)

[Cinema Sentries](#)

[Blinded by Sound](#)

Site Informati

[Contributors](#)

[Leaderboard](#)

[Contact Us](#)



Generated in: 1