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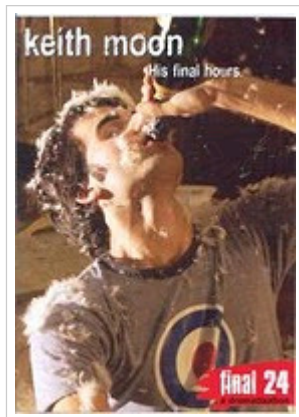


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Tuesday, June 29, 2010

Keith Moon - Final 24: His Final Hours



Keith Moon really enjoyed his fame. He was wild and partied a lot, destroying hotel rooms and drums in the process. But he was also one of the best drummers in the business, one that also paid the high price of an early death due to his excesses. And we, as humans, don't get tired of all the gossip that surrounds famous people deaths, particularly by drugs or the like. "Keith Moon - Final 24: His Final Hours" is another fascinating and captivating episode of

the series "Final 24," which examines the last 24 hours of the late rock artist.

As with other episodes in the series, this one alternates between dramatization, using actors as the main characters, and archival footage about the artist's history. We learn that he was born Keith John Moon, on August 23, 1946. He dropped out of school and, inspired by Gene Krupa, he got hooked on drums. He joined The Who, the group by which he became famous, on April, 1964, when he was seventeen-years old. Events that molded and affected his life, such as his failed marriage, fatherhood, an accident in which a dear friend was killed, life in Los Angeles, and more are also detailed. And, of course, there are the drugs and booze.

Keith Moon's last 24 hours began in London, on September 6, 1978. He and his girlfriend were staying in an apartment where, coincidentally, Mama Cass Elliot died four years earlier. He was trying very hard to quit alcoholism, using the drug Heminevrin. Apparently, he didn't feel like going out that night, as to avoid any temptations. However, he was invited to a party by Paul McCartney, and he was struggling about attending it. Against his best judgment, he and his girlfriend decided to go, not without snorting cocaine before leaving. He was well-loved by people and was always the life of the party. Once the event was over, Keith returned to the apartment, got something to eat, went to sleep, and never woke up. He was pronounced dead on September 7, 1978, at 5:50 PM. The autopsy revealed that he had 26 undissolved Heminevrin tablets in his stomach. He did not consume the drug according to prescription, as instructed by the doctor.

In addition to the archival footage, the documentary features interviews with people close to Moon, like Anette Walter-Lax (his girlfriend, and last person to see Moon alive), Amanda De Wolf (Moons' daughter), authors Tony Fletcher and Richard Barnes, Alice Copper, Pamela Des Barres (perhaps the most famous groupie of them all), and more.

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