

# Roctober

Monday, January 2, 2012

## GG Allin "Live in Boston 1989" DVD



(MVD) (Guest review by **Gary Pig Gold**)  
A Full Disclosure right up front, one and all:  
'Way back in the 1980 hey!day of my fanzine  
*The Pig Paper*, a certain Kevin Michael Allin  
sent over a sweetly autographed, stuffed with  
promo material copy of an album called  
*Always Was, Is and Always Shall Be* which  
had been newly issued on none other than  
David "The Pope Smokes Dope" Peel's Orange  
Records imprint. It sounded then, and  
remains today, a most spirited indeed  
collection of incredibly powerful pop in that  
classic Stooges / Dolls mold, with lyrics –  
especially heard in a, shall we say, immediate  
post-Pistols frame of ear – not really all that  
"shocking" whatsoever.

Now Kevin Michael grew all the way up to  
become, of course, *GG Allin*, who by the time  
of MVD Visual's *Live in Boston 1989* DVD was

still quite happy to remain focused upon the *fun* as opposed to the, well, feces of his craft. If you catch my career-spanning drift. For example, even before mounting the stage at The Middle East in Cambridge, MA on our particular hot August night in question, this disc treats us to thirty-five full minutes' worth of GG, *long*-suffering bassist/brother Merle, and their young AIDS Brigade band "Gettin' made up for the show," as this chapter's most accurately called. Why, we can even spot vintage Elvis on the wall, the carpet underfoot seems to have actually been vacuumed for the occasion, and the guys before the mirror seem no more rotten *or* vicious than, say, Monkees kept up after eleven.

Things really do go something like this:

"Is that green enough for you?" "I'm just putting the first coat on!"  
"This sharp enough for ya, honey?" "A little blacker under the eyes."  
"Wetting it makes it better." "I don't think that's dark enough." "Can

waymon



Roctober Magazine Senior Tastemaker

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you get me some Salems?" "Stop fooling around!" "Poke my eyeball out if you have to, but GET IT DARKER." "We wanna hide a *little* bit of the ugly..." "Orchid? Do ya have any, like, blue?" "Those whiskers. Really!" "Yes, you need more neon green." "Do you think you're lacking something?" "Hey! You covered my acne! Whaddaya know." "Purple? That's not me." "You're gonna have to tie your hair back or somethin'." "Aw yeah! That's New York Dolls-type shit!" "You need some dangly earrings."

Then, after posing for a requisite few Polaroids by the dressing room door, the lovely lads proceed to wobble onstage to play one true, loud, friction-packed set ...during which, I swear, GG's undies don't even drop until the middle of the fourth song. Now *these* are the lonely planet boys I knew and loved all the way back when it *Always Was*.

However, for the discriminating connoisseur I and MVD know are out there, the true meat of GG's matter is much more readily on display during the two – count 'em! – Bonus Shows generously added to this disc's menu.

Shot out in the once-picturesque Pacific Northwest a mere month before the man's most messy passing on 6/28/93, and featuring his crack back-up band of Murder Junkies to boot, allow me to run GG's action down thumbnail-style:

Bonus Show # 1 (Under The Rail, Seattle, May 26, 1993):

- Allin orifice exposed less than 40 seconds into the proceedings
- anal waterworks let loose at 4:23, followed by tasting of same
- clothes all off by 5:10
- Bible ripped apart at 5:45
- American flag desecrated at 6:16
- Seattle *Rocket* paper (that was actually a pretty good zine) set on fire at 7:23
- record album pooped on at 8:08 then tossed into (what remains of) audience at 8:52
- turkey baster enema self-inflicted at 10:02: "Don't take a picture of it – *suck* it, baby!"

...and all of this taking place while awaiting the guitarist to arrive before the first song!

Bonus Show # 2 (Roseland Theater, Portland, May 27, 1993):

- GG fully disrobed this time by 0:45!
- Sub Pop t-shirt, Bible, and some hot dogs all set on fire at 3:46
- Pepsi enema at 3:58
- this time, it's the *drummer* they're waiting for.

Ahh, my. "The long battles to prove he was a Saint," as no less a rock and roll authority as Paul McCartney once said. And all I can possibly add is that *GG Allin & The AIDS Brigade Live in Boston 1989* will make you laugh until you cry. Or maybe the other way around. RIP, Kevin Michael.

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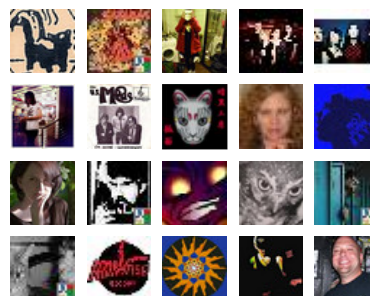
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