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Eyehategod – Live DVD

POSTED BY MARTIJN ON MAY - 13 - 2011



Eyehategod – Live

Eyehategod – Live DVD (director: Alex Keppler; MVD Visual)

1988 seems like such a long time ago. It was a time of the waning but ongoing Cold War, the terrifying oppression of the Reagan/Thatcher cabal, and the formation of the nastiest, most truly brutal band the world has ever seen: Eyehategod. Over 2 decades later, EHG remain the sickest bastards in the scene, and although it's been awhile since their last studio offering, the band has been touring steadily for the past several years. This DVD documents EHG's sonic terrorism in glorious fashion, with a 12-song set recorded in Cleveland, Ohio, in June 2010; a 10-song set recorded in Baltimore, Maryland, in October 2009; 3 songs recorded in Vienna, Austria,

in April 2010; and 3 not-really-made-for-MTV videos from years gone by. The Baltimore set is my favorite here. The band is on fire, particularly guitarists Brian Patton (Soilent Green) and Jimmy Bower (Down, Crowbar, et al), whose riffing and feedback-drenched squealing have never sounded so vibrant. Great overall sound, nice camera-work, and a fantastic setlist that includes '\$30 Bag', 'Children Of God', and 'Serving Time In The Middle Of Nowhere' help make this the set to beat here. Now, this is not to say that the Cleveland set is slouching. The setlist in the birthplace of rock 'n' roll is a dream come true—'Jackass In The Will Of God', 'Take As Needed For Pain', 'Sister Fucker', 'Dixie Whiskey', the 'hits' just keep coming!—and the band again sound fantastic, as does vocalist Mike IX Williams. Choppy camera-work and some weird quirks to the audio mix add value to the overall EHG experience, but leave me favoring the more cleanly produced set for home viewing. The bonus live stuff from Austria looks and sounds pro-shot, and is slightly odd as Mike's vocals are closer to what he does in Arson Anthem than what he typically does with EHG; it's amazing, but takes a little adjusting. Finally, the videos will offer no surprises to longtime fans who may not have ever seen these clips elsewhere: footage of the band occasionally finds its way into a never-ending, quick-cut montage of stock footage featuring violence, sex, medical oddities, 'celebrity' serial killers, more violence, more sex, insects, and—oh yes—don't forget the violence. This one sells for a budget price, too, so there is absolutely no excuse for not getting a copy and getting educated in the ways of Eyehategod.

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