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The resolution will be televised

by JOHNSON CUMMINS

March 8, 2012

If you're a rock nerd like I am, you've probably wasted copious amounts of time lost in a YouTube k-hole, peeping a veritable cornucopia of visual delights. The bummer trade-off is the grating low grade of these thumbnail-sized videos, which are further marred by horrendously compressed sound. With the record industry continuing to go down in a fiery ball of flames, they've attempted to put Band-Aids on their gaping wounds by releasing DVDs aimed directly at nerds like me. Two such releases that hit the shelves this week have not only crisp multi-camera angles, but woke my neighbours with absolutely amazing sound.

First up is **Dinosaur Jr.**'s *Live at 9:30 Club: In the Hands of the Fans* (MVD). Filmed and directed by Dave Markey (The Year Punk Broke), Dino jumped on the 'In the Hands of the Fans' trend (the Stooges etc.) and gave online contest winners six cameras to shoot their show

at D.C.'s famous 9:30 Club last summer. Watching J Mascis's sloth-like vocal style and ripping leads in high resolution was a thrill, but sadly this video could've offered so much more. The band was touring their seminal, breakthrough third record *Bug*, played in its entirety, but for my money, their second record—*You're Living All Over Me*—would've been far more searing on the senses. Probably the biggest miss, though, is having Henry "don't call me Hank" Rollins interviewing the band live on stage for 20 incredibly awkward minutes before the band even plugs in. Rollins is a trooper here and comes across as a rabid and well-researched fan, but the band's demeanour and mono-syllabic answers proved to be about as thrilling as chewing on tin foil. This sheer boredom is definitely not lost on the audience, as their chatter threatens to overpower the mind-numbing on-stage Q&A as the minutes climb on. Worse are the über-fan cameramen, who further embarrass the band with their mundane questions after the show. Outside of this, the band sound absolutely lethal and hungry as they re-attack their second best record.

The better of the two DVDs is most definitely **Motörhead**'s *The Wörld Is Ours Vol. 1: Everywhere Further Than Everyplace Else* (UDR/EMI). Knowing full well that they've released more live records than even their most ardent fans can handle, this three-disc DVD/CD package presents three shows, filmed in Santiago, New York City and Manchester last year. Now that Lemmy is on the wrong side of 60, this may be the last time we see Motörhead at their most vicious—and vicious indeed they are. Drummer Mickey Dee may very well be the best pounder in heavy metal today, as he and the band steamroll through hits like "The Chase Is Better Than the Catch," "Ace of Spades," "Killed by Death" and "Overkill." Luckily they show some balls and prove they're not dead yet, stuffing the sets with new ones like "The Thousand Names of God," "Be My Baby" and other songs you've more than likely never heard. Fucking stunning.

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