

Alice Donut: Freaks in Love: A Quarter Century in Underground Rock

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Alice Donut Freaks in Love: A Quarter Century in Underground Rock (MVD)

Below the radar punks Alice Donut are not an obvious choice for a documentary. Coming out of New York in the mid-'80s and early '90s, they spent most of their career on Jello Biafra's indie label Alternative Tentacles while many other college rock bands in the '90s moved to majors. Though they were a wildly inventive band – a true “alternative” band – they were largely ignored by the big music mags. But filmmakers David Koslowski and Skizz Ozyk obviously saw something there and as a result turn in a fantastic documentary of a band that deserved more attention than they got the first time around.

The film kicks off in the home of frontman Tomas Antona and bassist Sissi Schulmeister, now married with kids and living in the very un-punk rock North Carolina – **complete** with day jobs – preparing to go to New York to play a show with the reunited band. In about two hours, Koslowski and Ozyk cover the band's founding, their starts and sputters, up through their peak of success (it's all relative, folks) and then their 2001 reunion. They still record and play the occasional show in New York and their adopted **hometown** of San Francisco, but day jobs and family obligations have prevented them from reliving the vagabond days in a small van touring the globe.

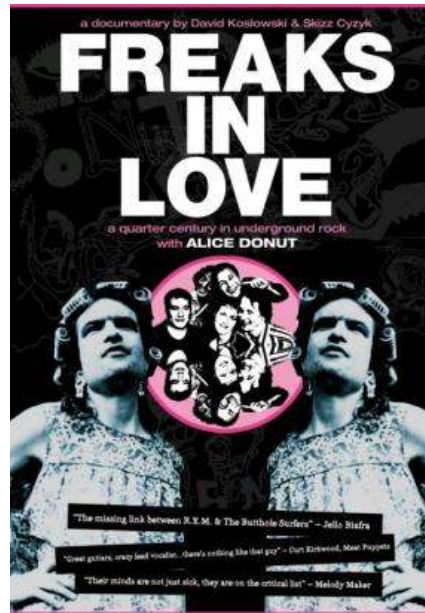
“Freak in Love” is not just for longtime fans of the cult band, but anyone who loves music. Here's hoping the renewed interest in Alice Donut leads to a much-deserved anthology set from this underdog band of loveable weirdoes.

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