



## BEIJING PUNK

(Written By: Jeffrey Kurtis)

The idea of a scene always intrigues me. It is so much more than just music with substance coming together to play shows; a scene goes deeper than the music and is a lifestyle. With this new DVD, *Beijing Punk*, viewers get the chance to explore the underground Chinese punk rock scene and see how everything in it has come together to make an impact on the generation. In the midst of the Beijing Olympics when the whole country was putting up a front for the rest of the world to see, the punk rock scene was busy telling the truth about what was really going on in their city. But as the director seemed to be focused on showing that story, he more importantly carefully told the story of how the scene developed which pretty much mirrors that of the US scenes. Through D22, a club that's owners had the idea of starting a venue to support the growing Beijing sound, the bands and fans have found an outlet for their music that is heavily influenced by groups like Motorhead, The Ramones, and Operation Ivy. However, the ideals of the Beijing punk rock scene encompass everything from the fashion, the hairstyles, the tattoos, the drinking, the skinhead culture, and more, and the music is simply the backbone of the scene. Throughout *Beijing Punk* you get the chance to learn about the bands, their struggles, their successes, and their motives, not only through outstanding clips of live performances, but also through very in depth interviews with the bands and venue owners that bring to light the differences of the Beijing scene in comparison to elsewhere. If you are anything like me then you haven't most likely heard of any of the bands in this DVD, but by the end of it you will clearly understand who they are, why they play punk rock music, and what the music and scene means to them. *Beijing Punk* offers a great look at what a scene is supposed to be like and this DVD puts you right into the middle of it.

