

Welcome To The Machine (MVD)

Welcome To The Machine is a rock doc by director Andreas Steinkogler. It follows his "12 commandments" of the music business through the course of the film. The film has its origins in Germany with the film dubbed in English, although many of the interviews are in German with English subtitles.

We follow a young band trying to achieve success and how those commandments impact their career. It took a few minutes to draw me in to the premise, but Steinkogler succeeded. This is an engaging, insightful documentary with a twisted sense of humor. Interviews with everyone from Glenn Hughes to Sonic Syndicate to various publicists and executives help propel the narrative. The aforementioned sense of humor keeps everything from getting pretentious. **Welcome To The Machine** kept my attention without ever feeling wordy or flat or preachy or dull.

In the end, what *is* success? The film opines that it is getting to make the music you love and feel you must make. Everything else is gravy. This one is well worth your time.