

The **MESSAGE**
FOR THE WEEK

Punk icon and former Stooges front man Iggy Pop is widely considered to be one of the most important innovators of the punk-rock genre. Often referred to as “the Godfather of Punk”, Pop is also widely acknowledged as one of the most dynamic and dangerous stage performers of rock.

Released on the MVD Audio label, *Live In San Fran, 1981* features solo Iggy during an interesting time in the early 80's and featuring a truly killer band that included Blondie drummer Clem Burke on drums, Mike Page on bass and future guitarist for David Bowie in Carlos Alomar. Another former Blondie member Gary Valentine also contributes on guitar, along with Rob Duprey on guitar as well.

The show is a soundboard recording taken from the tour supporting Pop's 1981 album *Party* (his last release under the Arista label) and features a maniacally powerful, 12-song set spanning Iggy's career to that point.

Although the overall sound quality leaves a little to be desired, clouding the interplay between the three dueling guitarists, the punching and frenzied playing of Burke and punching Page bass lines bring the show and the sound to life.

A few show highlights include “TV Eye”, “Some Weird Sin”, “Rock & Roll Party and “Lust For Life”, which would create a revival interest years later in (of all things) a TV commercial campaign.

The CD also includes two interesting previously unreleased bonus tracks, “Fire Engine” and “Warrior Tribe”, which were recorded and produced in 1983 by the legendary leader of The Cars, Ric Ocasek.

A very interesting piece of punk history indeed, and although Pop sounds a little reserved by his standards, *Live In San Fran* is certainly a must for all fans of the unpredictable and electric punk icon.

- Joe Milliken