



## EDWIN STARR STORY MVD

<http://www.allmusic.com/cg/amg.dll?p=amg&sql=10:hnfqxzygldke>

This documentary of soul singer {Edwin Starr} starts off with the man himself talking about Northern Soul phenomenon which he is so much a part of. It is just one of the many treats in this hour and forty-eight minute documentary on Starr's life and his music.

{&"War"} was such a monster hit in the U.S.A. in the summer of 1970 that it seemed to linger at #1 a lot longer than the 3 weeks credited it, but {^The Edwin Starr Story} gives the viewer a more complete look at his extraordinary career and reinforces {Edwin Starr}'s importance in the soul music firmament.

This is a very loving documentary which has enthusiastic praise and commentary from brother and bandleader {Angelo Starr}, manager {Lillian Kyle}, record producer {Ian Levine} and others. Soul DJ {Simon White} notes that the popularity of the old {Temptations} song, {&"War"}, in America was far removed from the world of Northern Soul and disco, which proves {Starr} was able to rise above the controversial nature of the tune, the very thing that kept {The Temptations} from releasing it as a 45.

The compelling chatter in between live performance clips - as well as {@MTV}-style videos - makes this an informative and fun look back at an important, and in some parts, still underrated, recording artist.

His semi-a capella {&"Let's Stay Together"} is another dimension from {Tina Turner}'s take on the {AI Green} classic, bringing audience participation in with the bongos. But it's the overview of his own classics which reminds the world that {Edwin Starr} had more influence in both America and Europe than he's ever been given credit for. Just as his cousin {Bobby Hebb} is revered in the U.K. for songs like {&"Love Love Love"} and the {Kenny Gamble} & {Leon Huff} 45 RPM, {&"You Want To Change Me"}, Starr's repertoire and dance-oriented r & b was embraced wholeheartedly in Europe for all the right reasons.

Along with being a solid look at the man's career this DVD also gives objective and valuable insight into the Northern Soul movement, and though there are no frills or bonus tracks, {^The Edwin Starr Story} is as entertaining as it is informative.

- Joe Viglione