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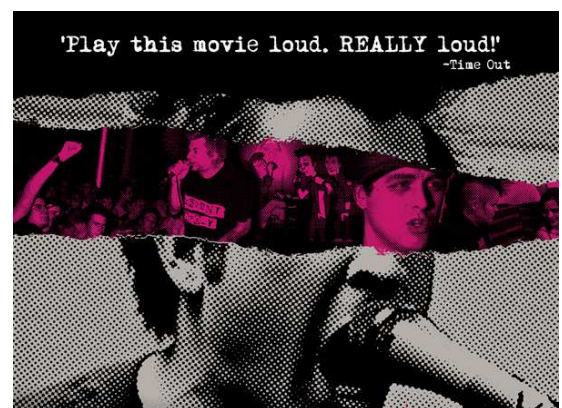

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Video Fix #2: Punk's Not Dead and More Audiovisual Goodies!

 Jun 7, 2013 Posted By [McFly In Columns](#), [Uncategorized](#) Tagged [Jim Kaz](#), [Punks Not Dead](#), [Video Fix](#) Comments 0

To the uninitiated, it might seem like punk is a united front. But alas, nothing could be further from the truth. Case in point: the way that some purists carry on about what does, or doesn't qualify as punk is easily as pretentious as the stuff they're rebelling against in the first place. When it comes down to it, punk is a schizophrenic beast, and it's never going to all be black or white. You can learn about this and other key issues in the excellent *Punk's Not Dead*—the latest DVD documentary (MVD) to infect my deck,

Originally released in 2007 the film was directed by punk fan newnoisemagazine.com/video-fix-2-punks-not-dead-and-more-audiovisual-goodies/



Originally released in 2007, the film was directed by punk fan Susan Dynner. But, there's absolutely no convoluted fan fiction to speak of here. Dynner's doc takes an entertaining but analytical approach, splicing current and past interviews with live vignettes, TV footage, home videos, animation and more.

We not only get an era-by-era breakdown, but a look at various subjects that are central to the story of punk. Topics range from touring, festivals, politics and sub genres, to the ever-controversial subject of corporate involvement, and what exactly constitutes "punk." On this hot one, there are varying opinions—those who despise the younger, poppier bands and their major-label contracts, and those who contend that punk sold out years ago anyway.

What makes *Punk's Not Dead* extra special is its wide cast of characters and the insights they share. Segments feature artists as diverse as anarchists Subhumans to hardcore heavies Minor Threat and Black Flag, street punk heroes Cock Sparrer and Rancid, plus pop-punk stars, Good Charlotte and Sum 41. The way Dynner contrasts the different strains, while illustrating commonalities makes for some interesting viewing.

Beyond that, there are cameos and interviews with just about everyone else that matters: The Ramones, Sex Pistols, Joe Strummer, Social Distortion, Green Day, The Adicts, The Damned, The Offspring, X, Circle Jerks and many, many more. Hell, even forefathers the MC5 have a place in here. For fans of punk new and old, this is one of the most comprehensive documents on the subject ever to grace my dilapidated deck.

Check out these other recent releases.



Last Shop Standing

When it comes to discovering new music, nothing will ever replace the old-fashioned record store. Case in point: you're never going to get expert advice on a Jesus and Mary Chain reissue at say, Target or Walmart—who would never carry such an abomination in the first place. And you are sure as hell not going to get any real insightful nuggets reading the descriptions on iTunes.

Records stores are where you can actually hold it in your hand, while about this stuff firsthand, and be a CD or the even most precious commodity, vinyl.

Last Shop Standing is a UK documentary that follows the decline of physical record stores through a series of interviews with record shop owners, industry players and musicians such as Paul Weller (The Jam), Johnny Marr (The Smiths), Billy Bragg and others. The film provides historical context in its quest to figure out what the hell went wrong, and is a must-see for anyone that longs for the pre-2006 days, before shops started going out as rapidly as homemade cassette tapes. (MVD)

Vampire Lovers

Once upon a time, the notion of lesbian themes in major movies was a pretty racy proposition. Toss in a few lusty vampires, gothic trappings and a splash of crimson, and you've got a full-on controversy about to happen—at least in the UK, circa 1970.

Hammer Films cranked out loads of these colorfully decadent gothic horror goodies set in the Victorian era during the '60s and '70s. *Vampire Lovers* is the story of a young vampire nymph—in the form of dishy

