

PASS THE POPCORN: Vintage punk rock film gives ode to struggles

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From the dirty, poor, shady conditions of New York City to the large, bulky video recorders, “Blank Generation” will bring audiences back to the first wave of the New York City punk rock scene in 1978.

The film was released nearly 30 years ago in October 1980, and has finally found its way to the modern era through a new release on DVD.

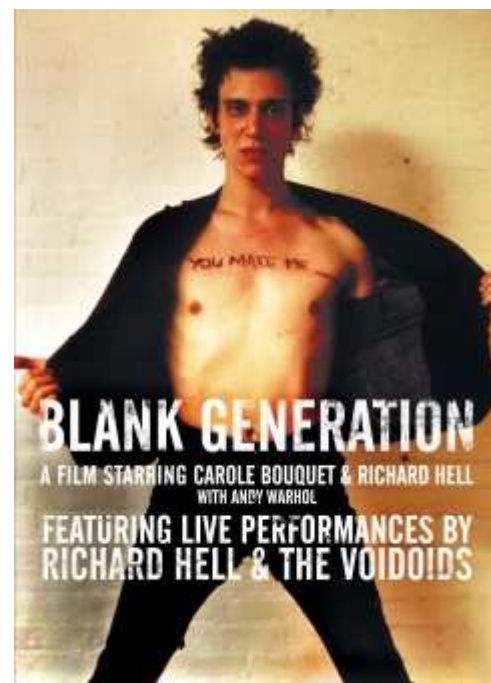
“Blank Generation” takes a close look at the life of Billy, a struggling musician who is trying to manage his personal life and jump-start a music career in punk rock.

Billy is played by Richard Hell and Nada is played by Carole Bouquet. Nada is a French journalist on assignment in New York interviewing many different artists, including Billy. Director Ulli Lommel also cast himself in the film as Hoffritz, a German journalist who is trying to interview Andy Warhol, who plays himself in the film.

Billy’s complicated lifestyle leads him to engage in an unstable relationship with Nada and she finds herself having to decide if she wants to stay with him or leave him to be with Hoffritz.

The film reflects the real conditions of New York City during the 1980s, with the rundown streets, the sleazy buildings, the types of technologies used and the way residents dressed. It also includes live performances by Richard Hell and The Voidoids throughout the film.

The “Blank Generation” DVD also includes bonus material of an exclusive 45-minute interview with Hell by Luc Sante that was filmed last year, which focuses on the making of the film and the stories behind it.



Courtesy of MVD