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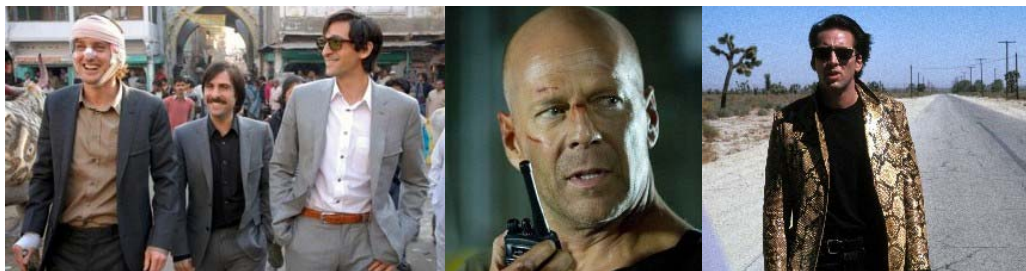
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Keith Richards: Under Review



This entry was posted on 10/3/2007 11:37 PM and is filed under [DVD Reviews](#).

The British-produced "[Under Review](#)" series has cranked out some great looks at musical artists, and some snoozers as well. **Because they're unauthorized productions, there's oftentimes a refreshing clarity to the unvarnished opinion they can express**; the downside of this fact is that sometimes there really needs to be a licensed audio or video clip to ground the discussion taking place. So it's a mixed bag, really.



Keith Richards: Under Review falls into the camp of solid entries in the series, mainly because of the innate curiosity factor surrounding its subject — Rolling Stones guitarist, walking bag of pharmaceutical contradictions, and now *Pirates of the Caribbean* costar and [inhaler of his father's ashes](#). Maybe it's because **Richards looks for all the world like a living (well, arguably), breathing (again, same) version of one of those garish puppets from Genesis' "Land of Confusion" video** — a grinning, Cheshire-cat badass who's exhausted all of his nine lives and then some, and yet still somehow keeps on ticking. Whatever it is, casual music fans and diehard Stones enthusiasts alike all find this guy fascinating.

This disc is basically a glorified clip-fest, but it does tap relatively deeply into the vault for rare and classic musical performances both from the Stones and Richards himself. The charismatic axeman's pivotal influences are recounted and assayed, and snippets of live and/or studio recordings of "Satisfaction," "Jumping Jack Flash," "Brown Sugar," "Tumbling Dice," "Start Me Up" and many others **give this title a charged energy all its own.** Offering up analytical contributions are a panel of esteemed musical experts that includes Richards biographers Alan Clayson and Kris Needs, Rolling Stones biographer Robert Greenfield, former Stones techie Keith Altham, celebrity guitar coach Wolf Marshall, original Stones member Dick Taylor, ex-*Melody Maker* journalist Chris Welch, *Rolling Stone* contributors Robert Christgau and Anthony DeCurtis, and musical collaborator Bernie Worrell, among many others. **The tapestry of opinion and sheer volume of anecdotal value, then, carries the day, even if a crisp portrait of Richards the man doesn't quite emerge from the haze.**

Housed in a regular Amray case in turn stored in a cardboard slipcover, *Keith Richards: Under Review* is presented on a region-free disc in a letterboxed 4x3 aspect ratio, with a stereo surround mix audio track. In aggregate the program runs just under 120 minutes, with supplemental material consisting of contributor biographies, a fairly detailed interactive trivia quiz about Richards and a short featurette in which aforementioned

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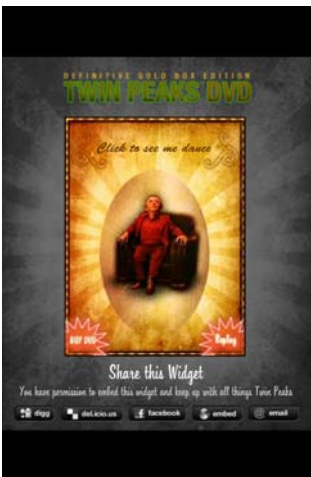
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