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U2 In The Third Millennium – The Rebirth Of Cool (Music Video Distributors DVD)

Picture: C+ Sound: C+ Extras: C- Main Program: C

U2 has only been around since 1980, yet this new DVD is oddly entitled **U2 In The Third Millennium – The Rebirth Of Cool**, but it actually covers what is the worst period the band has had to date despite all the experts complementing it on this set. You see, with **Zooropa** (1993) and **Pop** (1997), I thought the band was about to finally become a supergroup in more than just hype and commercial popularity, but after **Pop** went over the heads of most fans and critics, they did the worst possible thing they could do when it was not a blockbuster hit: retreat.

There is nothing "cool" about that and this installment of the British series sometimes dubbed **Under Review** (this one is not, which is a good thing for once) has all these people telling us how good **All That You Can Leave Behind** (2000) and **How To Dismantle An Atomic Bomb** (2004) are without telling us much about why. They keep telling us it is like the old material, but that (especially these days) is called recycling, being bored and very bad news for growth or creativity. Add how Bono (not noted here) almost broke up the band with his political activities and you have a band in big trouble who are far from the best Rock (or any other band) around and so overrated that they left the system unchallenged in the 2000s and that was about as non-Rock as you could get. Being able to sing and play is not sufficient if you have nothing to say.

No Line On The Horizon was issued after this special was finished and seems like more of the same. How much longer can they coast like this? Who knows, but it's their band and if professional suicide, losing their soul and going away with piles of money are good enough, good for them. It shows you why the Rock genre has been so dead in recent years. What a shame.

The 1.33 X 1 image looks good despite the analog video sources edited in here and there, while the Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo is also sufficient for the audio and this at least has their original music throughout. Extras include another quiz, text contributor bios and brief look at their tours at about 5 minutes.

For more and better U2 releases, try this link:

<http://www.fulvuedrive-in.com/new/viewer.cgi?search=u2>

- Nicholas Sheffo



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