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Category: Home > Reviews > Documentary > Music > Rock > Pop > England > Politics > Music Industry > Muse – Under Review (Chrome Dreams/MVD Visual DVD)

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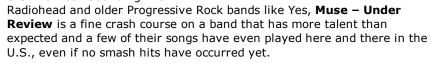
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Blu-ray)

# **Muse - Under Review** (Chrome Dreams/MVD Visual DVD)

Picture: C+ Sound: C+ Extras: C Documentary: B

Though very successful in Europe, Australia and other territories, Muse is an interesting British band that has been around since 1994, recorded five studio albums and have barely made a dent in the U.S. market. Sounding like



Usually, the **Under Review** series is excellent at covering music history by focusing on an artist or even an album and going from there to expand into a musical odyssey that makes it the richest such series around, but the challenge of showing off a band 17 year-old bands that should be more popular than it is makes for a change of pace that shows how cutting edge the show can be. It never shies away from historical context and those interviewed never hold back their opinions.

The band is a trio consisting of Matthew Bellamy, Christopher Wolstenholme and Dominic Howard, who play extremely well and make the kind of music I would like to hear more of. Though albums like Showbiz (1999), Origin Of Symmetry (2001), Absolution (2003), Black Holes & Revelations (2006) and The Resistance (2009) have sold well overseas, it is odd they have not cracked the states. I do believe some of it is for political reasons; certain conservative forces do not want them to become the next Radiohead, Blur or Oasis. However, now you can judge for yourself and if they do finally break out in the U.S., I would not be surprised one bit.

The 1.33 X 1 image is of the usual high quality for this series with a mix of new video footage, stills and usually great film footage throughout. The Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo is also decent as always with original music by the band, influences and other greats throughout. Extras include text on the interviewees and designing for the band.

Nicholas Sheffo

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2 of 2