DVD Review: The Sacred Triangle: Bowie, Iggy & Lou 1971-1973

By Laurence

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STUDIO: MVD Entertainment | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER: Rob Johnstone

RELEASE DATE: 11/23/10 | **PRICE:** DVD \$19.95

BONUSES: none

SPECS: NR | 97 min. | Documentary | 1.33:1 widescreen | stereo

RATINGS (out of 5): Movie 👓 👓 | Audio 👓 👓 | Video 👓 👓 | Overall 👓 👓

Documentary *The Sacred Triangle: Bowie, Iggy & Lou 1971-1973* is a feature-length examination of the unique and creative relationship between respected rock stars <u>David Bowie, Iggy Pop</u> and <u>Lou Reed</u> when their paths and musical styles crossed in the early 1970s during the glam rock era, a time when the seeds of punk rock slowly began to sprout.

Meeting in 1971 in and around New York's famed Max's Kansas City music venue and collectively aping/borrowing/inspiring each other's styles — Bowie's artfulness, Iggy's thrashing and Lou's rich musicality — the three musicians each emerged re-energized and poised to take on new directions in sound and vision. That they each worked on or produced each other's records for a time didn't hurt either.

The movie has a bunch of great vintage music clips (Bowie's performance of "Starman" on British TV is particularly affecting), some film footage and a whole slew of even better archive photos that capture a Lower East side of New York that is truly long, long gone. Ditto for the slew of talking heads who offer their two cents, ranging from the silly (Angela Bowie) to the sublime (music manager of the era and former Warhol-ite Leee Black Childers).

Though it's a bit overlong, *The Sacred Triangle* smartly gives each artist a fair amount of individual time, most illuminatingly on Bowie, who was going through his whole Ziggy Stardust and bisexuality personal shtick back in those years. It also offers an interesting mention of Bowie's friendship with T'Rex's Marc Bolan, a glam rock icon in his own right and a musical talent that certainly would have expanded the triangle into a square (quartet?) had he not died several years later.

Unfortunately, the documentary comes without any special features, but the movie is enjoyable enough with extras.