

OF THE YEAR

FILMS & DVDs

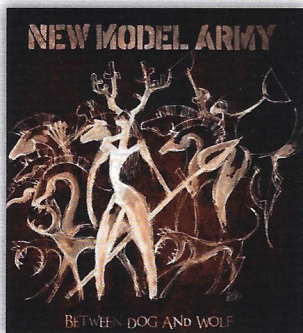
BETWEEN DOG AND WOLF: THE NEW MODEL ARMY STORY

(Cadiz)

Matt Reid's documentary provides a fascinating insight into New Model Army, in particular singer Justin Sullivan, and after 35 odd years, their story deserves to be told. Throughout, Sullivan has remained a constant while the New Model Army chopped and changed between 15 different members, and 'Between Dog and Wolf' is as much a story about him as it is of the band.

It's a frank and honest documentary, featuring early band footage, the infamous appearance on 'The Tube', playing live on 'Top of the Pops' as well

as comprehensive interviews with Sullivan's long time cohort Joolz and original bass player Stuart Morrow. Morrow's departure is dealt with openly and at times uncomfortably, and the tragic death of drummer Robert Heaton is covered in an equally sincere way. Despite their history, you can't help but come away thinking that there's still a lot more to come from this unique and extraordinary band.

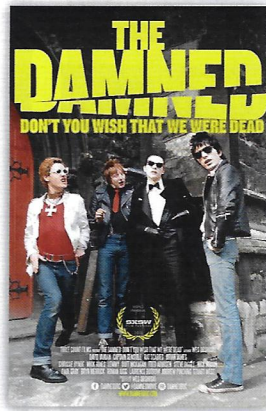


THE DAMNED: DON'T YOU WISH THAT WE WERE DEAD

(Three Counts Films)

'Lemmy' producer Wes Orshoski has done a fine job of chronicling The Damned's epic tale of anarchy, destruction and flirtation with pop stardom during the production of 'Damned Damned Damned' and 'Machine Gun Etiquette'. Guitarist Captain Sensible and drummer Rat Scabies are arguably the stars

of the show, but vocalist Dave Vanian gives his rarely heard insight into the chaos that seemed to follow the band everywhere. There's some mind blowing concert footage, interspersed with everyone from Lemmy to Chrissie Hynde to Fugazi's Ian MacKaye singing the band's praises. It's funny but the Damned may just end up being the greatest punk band ever, and this film certainly helps their case.

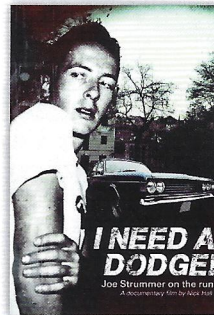


I NEED A DODGE! JOE STRUMMER ON THE RUN

(Cadiz)

'I Need A Dodge' traces the mysterious journey of the car that Clash frontman Joe Strummer bought and subsequently lost during his wild years on the Costa Del Sol. Director Nick Hall travels across Spain trying to locate Joe's missing ride, but rather than just being a

film about a car, this is a journey into Joe Strummer's mindset. It's an interesting take on the great man which has never really been explored before. Although much of the reason any real Clash fan will want to pick up this beautifully presented package is all the extras included (the only thing really missing is that Dodge!)

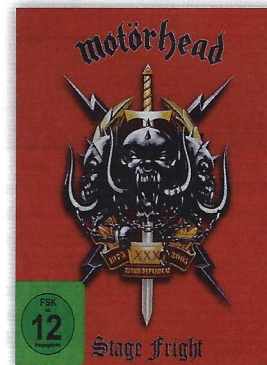


MOTORHEAD: STAGE FRIGHT

(Steamhammer/SPV)

Finally getting the long overdue blu-ray treatment, this Motorhead live video was originally released in 2005. Filmed to commemorate Lemmy and co.'s 30th anniversary, 'Stage Fright' captures the band in blistering full flow, powering through classics like 'Ace of Spades', 'No Class', 'Overkill' and

'Killed By Death'. Rarer favourites like 'Killers', 'Whorehouse Blues' and 'Dancing On Your Grave', combined with a blinding light show and a packed house make this a solid release. They still pack a hell of a punch live and along with stacks of bonus material, this is well worth picking up for any true Motorheads out there.

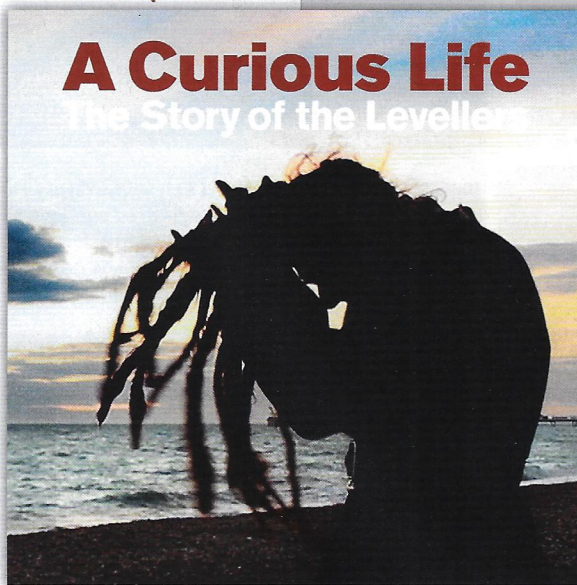


A CURIOUS LIFE: THE STORY OF THE LEVELLERS

(OTF)

This is the incredible story of Brighton folk punk legends the Levellers, as told by bass player and artist Jeremy Cunningham. Directed by former Chumbawamba frontman Dunstan Bruce, it charts their recovery from a near-implosion brought on by drink, drugs and creative drought following their huge success from 1988 to 1998 (with hits like '15 Years', 'One Way' and 'What a Beautiful Day'). Now with their own studio, label and Beautiful Days festival, they have found a way to survive within (yet kind of outside of) the fickle music industry.

A funny and absorbing watch that shows that the Levellers have gone through the highs and lows and come out smiling. A beautiful day indeed.



LAST GANG IN TOWN

Levellers' bassist Jeremy offers some choice words.

On staying together...

"I remember hearing Joe Strummer saying that the worst thing he ever did was to sack Topper Headon and then later on Mick Jones. Because of ego, basically. That was a lesson that we took on board. Once you get that band and those people and it works, you can't fuck around with that chemistry. People aren't interchangeable – those are the people that make the noise."

"All of us in the Levellers, we like playing in bands basically. We've never had any grand ambitions outside of that. I think that's why we're still together. We didn't care if we failed and we didn't think past the next day."

On offering a message with their music...

"That's what we do. It's always been our blueprint without actually consciously doing it. I suppose that we did say that we wanted to write and play music that people could jump up and down to for a bit of escapism with some lyrics that would actually mean something and make them think a little bit."

"I'm a big fan of Crass from back in the day and I'll always remember talking to them about why, if they were trying to bring an anarchist message across to as many people as possible, the sound was so inaccessible. They said that it was because they wanted to do it on their own terms and for people to actually invest into the listening, which is fair enough."

"Because we come from a bit of a folk background as well, where you play songs on acoustic guitars – plus Mark (Chadwick, vocals/guitar/banjo) and Simon (Friend, guitar/vocals) are both great pop writers – it's just the way we do it. I think when we started it was also perhaps a bit of a reaction to all of the '80s stuff where songwriting had been a bit... I guess, devalued. It was always a big deal for us to have songs rather than have instrumental, epic musical stuff with a bit of words over it."