

# IMPOSE

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## **Big Audio Dynamite II** ***Big Audio Dynamite Live: E=MC<sup>2</sup>*** MVDvisual

Where the hell was I in the early '90s or for that matter the second half of the '80s? If you're like me, you completely blew off **B.A.D. II** as just a side project of a guy who was trying to make a little more dough off of his great legacy. (Quick recap: *The Clash* was nearing its end with Joe Strummer and Mick Jones really suffering from a difference in opinions on musical direction in '82. Mick forms **B.A.D.** in '84 and then forms **B.A.D. II** in '91.) Hopefully, the majority of you are seething at this point knowing that I missed out on a truly remarkable audio experience.

Recorded at London's Town and Country club, just as their biggest album *The Globe* had come out, ***Big Audio Dynamite Live: E=MC<sup>2</sup>*** is a sampling of how innovative this band was. Even recorded they remain an invigorating and charismatic mash of rock/hip-hop and samples. Mick Jones strides on stage at the start, clad in his leather jacket and non-descript black guitar and without so much as a 'Hello' launches into the infectious '*Medicine Show*.' Not knowing much of their work besides '*The Globe*' and '*Rush*', served me well while viewing as each song, including the aforementioned, just furthers the point that I need all of the **B.A.D.** incarnations back catalog.

To boot, **B.A.D. II** close out this show with '1999', yes a cover of the Prince staple. Barring a reunion, ***Big Audio Dynamite Live: E=MC<sup>2</sup>*** is your only shot at seeing a pioneering act at their height, performing with enjoyment their well-crafted wares. Mick Jones playing off the crowd in delight is what really made me feel I missed something back in my near-sighted adolescence.

- Jim Jacka