



Big Audio Dynamite

E=MC2 Live Cherry Red Films CRDVD148 **

Non incendiary live performance

Before Clash completists and aficionados of all things mid 80's rock / rap crossover get too excited it's only fair to point out this DVD doesn't feature the original B.A.D. line up but its poor relation that was B.A.D. I I. Put together after the break up of the original band at the end of 1989, B.A.D. I I crucially finds the ever affable Mick Jones fronting the proceedings without his talismanic sparring partner Don Letts whose presence and contributions lent the whole B.A.D. project much of its cross cultural street cred and kudos. Shot at London's Town And Country Club in 1990 and with a total running time of only 50 minutes this is far from the complete show being effectively an edited highlights package with pride of place reserved for the selections from B.A.D.'s debut album This Is Big Audio Dynamite - Medicine Show, E=MC2 and The Bottom Line plus the show closing cover of Prince's 1999. If this had been live footage of B.A.D. in their mid 80's pomp it would have been a different story as it is this is very much second division fare. In essence B.A.D. were very much of their time with their genre busting sound fashioned from the collision of rock, rap and dub influences here alas it all just feels tired and not a little ordinary.

- Grahame Bent