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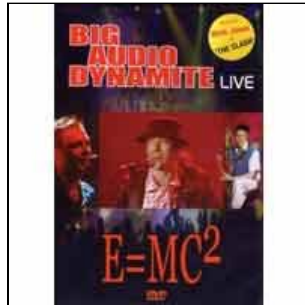
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## Big Audio Dynamite E=MC2

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A whole underground of fans mourned when one of THE seminal punk rock bands split up in the early eighties. The Clash were and still are, to many, one of the most astute, politically aware and musically inventive bands to come out of the punk explosion of the late seventies. Sex Pistols may have grabbed most of the headlines but its safe to say that The Clash have stood the test of time better and influenced any number of bands, too many to mention. So when Mick Jones and Joe Strummer decided to end their musical relationship due to differences in artistic direction British music took a harsh blow.

Mick Jones decided he wanted to explore different music styles, incorporate them into one and in the process become one of the main influences on the indie acid house movement of the late eighties with bands like Happy Mondays, The Stone Roses and later Primal Scream. Big Audio Dynamite aren't given the credit they deserve for the influence they had. This DVD is of a live performance by the band from 1990 and captures exactly why they deserve such appraisal.

Mixing up styles such as rave, punk, reggae/ska, and hip hop into a sweaty, dance inducing, pill popping party, Mick Jones and co (Don Letts playing guitars, Leo Williams on bass, Greg Roberts on drums and keyboardist Dan Donovan) play a hedonistic set including classics such as *The Globe*, *E=MC2*, and *I Don't Know*, plus a cover of Princes 1999. Although it sounds dated now, put into context this band really had a major impact, and were in many ways innovative with their incorporation of dance music and rock. We also get to see some of the outlandish clothing people dressed themselves with back in the rave days (some classic pie eyed fashion faux pas going on here).

Whilst the DVD doesn't offer much more than the live performance to a bunch of charlies wizzing their heads off, we do get a glimpse into the new indie rave culture which they had a part in creating. If you are a massive fan of the band then pick this up but if you're indifferent, like me, then it's probably not going to be of much interest to you.

By **Marc Higgins**

This release was published on 26 Mar 2007.

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