



The union will make him pay for that, and sure enough, out rolls the guillotine to lop off his fake head before having it paraded around by a woman in a bald cap wig. Gotta hate it when that happens.

• Cam Hayden

Queen

Under Review 1980-1991 (An Independent Critical Analysis)

Chrome Dreams

Where will we go, what shall we do, when the last one who remembers is gone? Lucky us - in the case of Queen, we have all those memories saved on DVD - this DVD, to be exact. Under Review is the story of legendary rockers, Queen, during the last decade of their existence. They had already established themselves as worldwide superstars with their unusual combination of glam rock, heavy metal, intricate vocal harmonies, and a little disco. Disco, the secret love which the band finally came out and confessed on the much-misunderstood (especially Stateside) Hot Space album of 1982.

Unfortunately the decade would see the band continue to make as many mistakes as triumphs. Sure, they were the stars of the original Live Aid, but just before that concert they performed in South Africa, which was still poisoned by apartheid at the time, while many artists and athletes refused to play there. Of course, singer Freddie Mercury's insistence upon continuing to "do everything with everybody, darling" (as he confided to one of the interviewees on this DVD) probably wasn't such a good idea either in light of his 1992 AIDS-related death.

The real stars of this documentary, though, are the crusty old music journalists (and one token, somewhat younger and therefore just a bit snotty - not crusty - BBC jock) who tell the band's story. It seems they all met Queen on a number of occasions. Some of them go further and apparently believe they had (have?) a special relationship with the band. But aren't all fans like that - if they really love a group's music? Ultimately this DVD is a pleasure for the considerable live and archival footage alone, and listening to these old guys talk, you might pick up a bit more about the band as opposed to just watching their music videos and listening to your friends drone on in the background - however much the two experiences might look and sound the same at first glance.

• Mike Pathos