

CLEVELAND FREE TIMES

JULY 7 - 13, 2004 - CLEVELAND FREE TIMES

MUSIC

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— In the late '70s, **Rod Swenson**, manager of the **Plasmatics**, produced a **Dead Boys** video that was made into a commercial for the band's national tour. Swenson just recently discovered that he still had the old footage, and it's currently being formatted for a DVD due out later this summer on **Music Video Distributors**.

"A lot of people know about the band, but it was years and years and years ago," says **Hilly Kristal**, who's overseeing the DVD. "I think it's important. I love the Dead Boys and want to see them get everything they should have gotten."

The owner of the New York punk club **CBGB**, Kristal used to manage the band, which played regularly at his club some 25 years ago. The music has endured, he says, because it captured a generation's despair.

"If we think of punk, they were one of the true punk bands," Kristal says. "By the time they came around, kids were leaving Cleveland and there wasn't much to do. The first two albums reflect the feelings of a disenfranchised teenager, very much like the bands of Manchester, England. They had nowhere to go in life, and the music is very strong and hard, and the musicianship, especially for that time, was really excellent. It seems as if it was loud, but it wasn't that loud. It was just hard and big and full of energy."

— *Jeff Niesel*