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# LOSINGTODAY REVIEWS



THE DEAD BOYS  
LIVE AT CBGB'S 1977  
(Music Video Distributors)  
BY David Mansdorf

Fans of these purveyors of "young, loud and snotty" punk (back when that term meant something fresh and exciting) have reason to rejoice with the release of this DVD. "Live at CBGB's 1977" captures The Dead Boys in their prime, tearing up the stage at CBGB's with a reckless abandon few have been able to equal in the 28 years since. Lead singer Stiv Bators in particular works the stage with an animalistic intensity similar to Iggy Pop (the last song is a cover of Iggy & The Stooges' "Search and Destroy"). Sure the sound and picture are a bit muddy, but considering the lack of good live recordings from this era of punk, we should be glad it even exists. The 10 song set whizzes by like and out of control freight train, but not before showing that, beneath all the vicious exterior (the Dead Boys were often called the American Sex Pistols....an argument not without its merits), the Dead Boys had a strong pop sensibility which made their songs memorable. In gentler hands, some of their songs may have even gotten on the radio.

Perhaps as interesting as the actual performance are the bonus features. Interviews with the band from back in the day, and a recent interviews with guitarist Cheetah Chrome and band manager/ CBGB's owner Hilly Kristal help give the performance a historical perspective. In his recently filmed segment, Chrome, who looks surprisingly together considering his years of hard living, provides an honest look back at what brought the band together (the love of music, and playing live in front of a crowd) and what tore them apart (drugs, and a lackluster sophomore album). There is also incongruous bonus footage of a band called The Steel Tips playing live at CBGB's from the same era. It's an instance of something being awful that it becomes screamingly funny.

Stiv Bators death after being hit by a Bus in Paris in 1990 (he was discharged from the hospital and died later that night from internal injuries) have pretty much done away with any thoughts of re-uniting, but this DVD provides all the proof needed that The Dead Boys were a powerhouse live band who had the rare ability to visually shock and revolt audience while at the same time getting them to sing along.

David Mansdorf

-JULY SKIES  
-MENOMENA  
-THE BOXER REBELLION  
-THE FAIRWAYS  
-ELLIOTT SMITH  
-NAGISA NI TE  
-65 DAYS OF STATIC  
-THE FIERY FURNACES  
-RADIO 4  
-FIVER  
-ARIEL PINK'S HAUNTED  
GRAFITTI 2  
-BABYSHAMBLES  
-KASABIAN  
-THE HIDDEN CAMERAS  
-THE LEGENDARY SHACK  
SHAKERS  
-63 CRAYONS  
-PONIES IN THE SURF  
-VARIOUS ARTISTS  
-THE FAIRWAYS  
-SONS AND DAUGHTERS  
-NICK DRAKE  
-THE KINGSBURY MANX  
-THIGHPAULSANDRA  
-FLOGGING MOLLY  
-THE VACATION  
-BOXER REBELLION  
-MERCHANDISE  
-ASH  
-FIXMER/MCCARTHY  
-COLIN LLOYD TUCKER  
-JUNIPER  
-THE VIOLETTES  
-EL-MUNIRIA  
-THE YOUNGS  
-CHARLIE PARR  
-THE POLYPHONIC SPREE  
-AMBULANCE LTD  
-VARIOUS ARTISTS  
-VARIOUS ARTISTS  
-AN ANGULAR SAMPLER  
-UP-TIGHT  
-GREENDAY  
-BAKER STREET  
IRREGULARS  
-MONSTER MOVIE  
-MULESKINNER JONES  
-YOUTHMOVIE  
SOUNDTRACK STRATEGIES  
-VAUX  
-GABRIEL MINNIKIN  
-GREAT LAKE SWIMMERS  
-MICROPHONES

- TV ON THE RADIO
- CARTE BLANCHE
- BLINDNESS
- JOHN WAYNE SHOT ME
- MAGNUS
- BROKEN SOCIAL SCENE
- IRON AND WINE
- THEE SILVER MOUNTAIN
- REVERIES
- LEISUR::HIVE
- VOLCANO THE BEAR
- MARILYN MANSON

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