


www.fulvuedrive-in.com


REVIEWS

ESSAYS

INTERVIEWS

CONTACT

STAFF

RATINGS SYSTEM

SEARCH

 Category: [Home](#) > [Reviews](#) > [Punk Rock](#) > The Stranglers - Live 1978 In San Francisco

The Stranglers -- Live '78, San Francisco

Picture: C Sound: C Extras: C Film: B

The Stranglers were one of the first bands to rise out of the British Punk scene of the late 80's. Their first album, **Rattus Norvegicus**, was released in 1977, preceding albums by more famous counterparts like the Sex Pistols and The Clash. **The Stranglers -- Live '78, San Francisco** has been issued on DVD and gives all a chance to see one of the most important bands of its day in peak form.

Frank sexuality, heavy bass-line hooks, deep working-class British accents, and an electric keyboard defined their sound. It was challenging to the average listener then, but was one of the steps that led Punk to become the more radio-friendly New Wave movement.

The DVD captures their live show. The concert was filmed with a hand-held video camera of the era in a 1.33 X 1 ratio, so the picture and sound are not of the highest quality. It's dark in the club, and the videographer is jostled around. Ghostly afterimages of the bands stream across the screen. The music drops in and out.

Video special effects, color swirls primarily, were added in post-production for a couple of songs; it's more distracting than entertaining. That said, for a fan of the Punk scene, this DVD is an important artifact of the time and well worth watching. No one knew if any of these bands would ever be considered important or influential. This chance to experience them in their prime is an important piece of Rock and Roll history.

The extra feature is one long commercial for other Target Video products, not to be confused with the retail chain, of course. It gives tantalizing glimpses of other bands in the line, but really adds nothing to the package.

- Wayne Wise

CURRENT REVIEWS

IN STORES SOON

- >Witness - Special Collector's Edition
- >Midsomer Murders - Set Six
- >Expo - Magic Of The White City: The 1893 Chicago World's Fair
- >The Saint - The Early Years (1963) - Set Two
- >Fingersmith
- >Style Wars (Public Art Films)
- >The Silent Star (1960)
- >La Petite Lili
- >Shakespeare's Women & Claire Bloom
- >Andy Griffith Show - Complete Third Season
- >In The Dust Of The Stars
- >Eolomea (Science Fiction)
- >The Complete Ripping Yarns (Michael Palin/Terry Jones)
- >The Truman Show - Special Collector's Edition
- >Platform (2000)

IN STORES NOW

- >Homicide - Season Seven
- >Hercules Double Feature (Ferrigno/MGM)
- >Degrassi Junior High - Season 2
- >Raising Heroes
- >Heat Of The Sun (Mystery)
- >Dodgeball - Unrated
- >Alibi (2003/British TV)
- >Benny Hill - Set Three (A&E)
- >Ultimate 3-D Experience (Razor Digital)
- >Moving Violations
- >Nightmare Alley (Noir)
- >The Garden Of Eden (1928)
- >Fritz Lang's 'M' (Region Zero/PAL Eureka! set)
- >Amityville II - The Possession (Region Zero PAL edition)
- >The Stranglers - Live 1978 In San Francisco

MARKET PLACE