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Shadow Project - And Then There Was Death

Music Video Distributors

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Synopsis:

Shadow Project is perhaps the most prolific of Rozz Williams' post-Christian Death era music, and it most closely resembles the work that made him a goth icon. Incorporating punk, glam, and experimental influences and centered around Williams and his wife Eva O., Shadow Project was named after a peculiar effect of the nuclear detonation at Hiroshima (some people left shadows burned into the pavement, but no bodies). This DVD features live performances from the 90's, plus interviews and spoken word performances.

It's tough to critique a DVD put out by an underground band (at least to my knowledge, anyway), as you know the quality probably isn't going to be the best and that the release is truly geared towards fans of the band only, but that being said, one would hope that any given musical DVD would provide at least a slight bit of entertainment value for non-fans or those not in the know...

... unfortunately, that just is not the case with this "Shadow Project" DVD. Skipping over the incredibly bad quality of the concert footage (looking like it was shot using the first video camera ever available), the band itself just doesn't strike me as that interesting, let alone talented. To be honest, I was constantly reminded of the SNL skit with Chris Kattan as "Azrael the Abyss" (i.e. bunch of nerds dressed up goth-style in their parents' basement) - these guys just seemed that hokey to me. I watched maybe 2 or 3 songs in their entirety before the "skip" button became my friend.

Sayeth the raven, "No more, please, no more!"

Video: How's it look?

Fullscreen video looks like it was shot on a low-cost consumer handycam under the poorest lighting conditions imaginable - grain, noise, heavy shadows all combine to make for a nearly unwatchable presentation. Undoubtedly the transfer did all it could do, but you can only do so much with lousy original footage.

Audio: How's it sound?

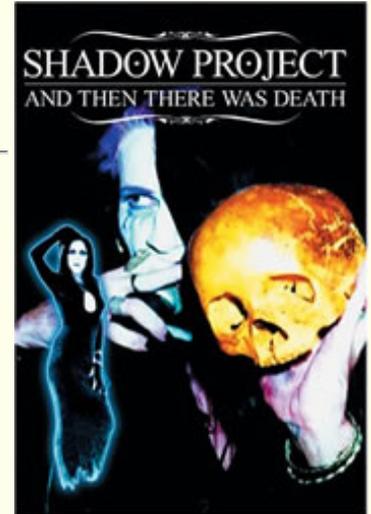
Dolby stereo mix has the music sounding okay (not great, but okay), with the vocals being lost somewhere in the mix. Again, no doubt due to the original source materials, but it's frustrating nonetheless not being able to even hear the lyrics...

Extras: What all's on the DVD?

- interviews with band members
- spoken word performances

Closing Thoughts

Unfortunately non-entertaining concert footage + at least a couple extras = DVD only for fans of this band



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