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Metal Mania 2004 By By Robin Steeley

The largest metal festival in Poland is exclusively Metal Mania. It's a blend of classic old school and newer thrash metal from around the world.. The DVD features live performances by Soulfly, Moonspell, Tiamat, MSG, and Enslaved just to name a few. Its such a stretch in the genre but it works for this festival, the crowds look incredible and the overall production of the DVD is well done. I found myself wanting to know what they were saying between sets, but it just adds to the overall mystique. This is a line up you would never see at an American Metal show.

I really liked the classic metal of MSG but my favorite off this has to be Soulfly's intense performance, the crowd was singing the songs so loud you could barely hear Max Cavalera during the choruses. The last four minutes of the DVD are definitely the most powerful. I also enjoyed the dark creepy Moonspell. The DVD gives you biographical information on all the bands as well as bonus material and photo galleries. It also includes a CD that is a preview of the Polish metal scene, a compilation of all the bands that played the second stage at the 2004 festival. With over two hours of material I like the overall diversity of what this package offers and think it will appeal to metal fans all over the world.

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