



Thunders, Kane & Nolan - You Can't Put Your Arms Around A Memory

(Music Video Distributors;
www.musicvideodistributors.com)

Before the Two York Dolls reunited recently, 3/5 of the Dolls played a thrilling concert in 1987 at the Roxy in West Hollywood. This is the DVD version of that show-down, which was documented a few years ago on the similarly excellent live Johnny Thunders CD *In the Flesh*. The difference here is that you get a few songs ("Courageous Cat," "Baby What You Want Me To Do") that weren't on the live album, as well as such joys as watching a smirking Thunders run a comb through his hair between tunes. It's a one-camera shoot with decent visuals but has full, threatening sound, with Jerry Nolan's solidly rumbling drums, the reclusive Arthur "Killer" Kane's lurking bass and guitarist Barry Jones filling in the gaps. Johnny Thunders is really on, in full, swaggering, confident voice with typically loud-and-leering distorted lead guitar. "Pipeline" is not just monstrously fuzzy but also awesome and majestic, the way big waves should sound. "Green Onions" stalks menacingly, almost out of control, before Thunders turns the instrumental into a bluesy improv vamp. He puts his sweet & sour alley-cat yowl to the Dolls' "Personality Crisis" and "Lonely Planet Boy," but the 21-song set ranges mostly through his solo classics and several covers. There's a contrasting acoustic interlude with an endearing, forgive-me-for-everything version of the title track, and Thunders strums a lovely and uncredited "It's Not Enough" before getting distracted partway through and bringing the band back. In many ways, particularly performance and sound quality, this is one of the best Johnny Thunders-related films/videos/DVDs available. With a rare Killer Kane sighting and Jerry Nolan setting off well-timed detonations, the show catches Johnny Thunders on a real (dare I say it?) high.

BONUSES: You can't put your arms around nothing, which is what you get here.