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Thunders, Kane & Nolan

You Can't Put Your Arms Around a Memory Music Video Distributors



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As a digital document of a one-off reunion of glam-punk's finest, this DVD promises great things. Filmed live at the Roxy in Hollywood in 1987 at the pinnacle of glam and punk's unholy alliance, this last-minute booking of three former New York Dolls was a major event.

Unfortunately, with just one camera angle and shoddy resolution, this DVD doesn't quite deliver. What we mostly get is a side angle of Johnny Thunders, and a glimpse or two of docile bassist Arthur Kane and jungle drummer Jerry Nolan. The set consists of a couple Dolls numbers, Thunders solo material and a few covers. There's also an acoustic solo interlude with Thunders that would've benefited greatly from better angles and sound.

But beyond the technical deficiencies, it's a pretty captivating show. Johnny Thunders will always epitomize the bad-ass, junkie-punk guitar bandit and this film captures him and his mates in their glammiest post-Dolls phase, ruffled shirts and all. Aside from that, there are a few close-ups of Thunders bustin' out one of his twisted, trademark solos, which to this day, no one has successfully imitated. And for that alone, this DVD is worth checking out.

- Jim Kaz

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