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The DVD Diary

By Adam Bernard

For this opening installment of The DVD Diary we're going to take a look at two distinctly different concert DVD's, **Public Enemy's It Takes a Nation - The First London Invasion Tour 1987** and **Eminem Presents The Anger Management Tour** DVD, as well as one DVD that defies categorization, **Tino Vision**.

Starting things off is Public Enemy's London Invasion Tour DVD, which not only gives viewers a large sampling of what PE was like at their height, but also provides a good amount of behind the scenes footage and interviews. All the behind the scenes footage, however, only ends up leading one to realize that PE was best heard on stage and not in conversation. Some of the things uttered in interviews that I still can't believe include Chuck D saying he didn't understand where the term Third World Country came from and his very strange response to a reporter who asked the very good question of "do females count" when she noticed every one of the answers the group was giving only pertained to black males. Chuck's response that the systems holds up black females to keep the black males down is one, I'm sure, many black females would choose to disagree with.

I'm not sure why, but the DVD ends with Flava Flav explaining to the cameraman how to eat a piece of friend chicken. Though Flav was known for his outlandish behavior, you'd figure something like this would be edited out. Another segment I was surprised to see make the cut was a shot of Chuck D holding up the Def Jam logo and giving praise to the label. I understand at that point in time they were on Def Jam but after everything that's transpired it seems a little bit odd that the scene was left in.

In the end the London Invasion Tour DVD does have it's high points, most of which being the live performances, but none of them even come close to the heights Eminem and D12 reach on The Anger Management Tour DVD. Some may say talk like this is blasphemous, but the fact of the matter is 15 year passed in between the tours these

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DVD's cover, so growth is only natural.

Eminem's Anger Management Tour DVD features his full set from his Detroit performance in 2002. An incredible crowd motivator, Em had the entire audience chanting parts of the choruses of "White America" and "Kill You." This is even more impressive when one realizes neither song was ever a single for the angry blonde. Another impressive moment came when one of the mics died during D12's set and they never missed a beat. Kuniva and Kon Artis ended up sharing a mic which ended up a great visual since they had to switch back and forth every couple of bars.

Rather than interspersing backstage footage with the show, The Anger Management Tour DVD has a separate section for some of the events that happened during the tour, complete with freestyle sessions and a hilarious end scene where Obie Trice imitates each member of D12 while lip synching "When The Music Stops." 2002 was definitely Em's year and this DVD proves it.

Finally we get to Tino Vision, a DVD billed as a "state of the art visual surround sound experience." With a billing like that, along with the Obey-esque cover art and a track listing that includes DJ Shadow, I was confident this would be something interesting. Once the first scene, "Audio Tests," got started I knew I was in for a dope experience. Tino Vision really utilizes 5.1 surround sound and it felt like words and beats were bouncing off my walls in every direction. This is definitely a DVD where some herbal enhancement could lead to hours of replay, though I'm not sure I'd want to see the overly freaky "Horned Grandma" high.

The bonus features on Tino Vision are good, though I could have done without the live version of "House Of God," the video for which during the main feature was dope, and there's rarely a need to see a techno song live. Overall Tino Vision is a dope experience. It's not traditional Hip-Hop, it even borders on electronic music at times (most of the time), but it's definitely worth your time. Tino Vision also a straight up lesson on what can be done with surround sound.

Final Grades

PE's It Takes a Nation - The First London Invasion Tour 1987: **C**

Eminem Presents The Anger Management Tour DVD: **B+**

Tino Vision: **A**



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