



CURRENT REVIEWS

IN STORES SOON

- >Chu Chin Chow - Special Edition (1934)
- >Piano V.1 (Animé TV)
- >Diary Of A Mad Black Woman (Widescreen)
- >The House Of Elliott - Series One
- >American Psycho - Killer's Collector's Edition (Uncut)
- >Game Over - The Complete Collection
- >Femi Kuti - Live At The Shrine (DVD/CD)
- >Gunner Palace
- >Nada+ (Nothing More)
- >Death By Design/The Life & Time Of Life & Times
- >Hip Hop By Da Bay
- >Agatha Christie's Poirot - The Classic Collection (Acorn)
- >The Keys To The House
- >Cold Feet - The Complete Third Season
- >Angel On The Right (Tajikstan)

IN STORES NOW

- >Swimming With Sharks - 10th Anniversary Special Edition
- >Donkey Skin (Musical/ Operetta)
- >Bela Fleck - Drive (SACD)
- >Blue (1968)
- >Memento Mori (DTS)
- >Clutch Cargo - Volume 1 (VCI)
- >Sideways (Widescreen)
- >Disney DTS Region 3 Animated Features: Monster's Inc./Lion King/Finding Nemo
- >The City (La Ciudad)
- >Gad Guard V. 2 & V.3 (Animé TV)
- >Prime Cut
- >Beyond The Sea
- >P.D. James - The Essential Collection
- >Dog Soldiers (DTS/Region 3)
- >Fireball 500/Thunder Alley

Beulah – A Good Band Is Easy To Kill

Picture: C Sound: C+ Extras: C+
 Documentary: C+

A cycle of Rock music programming in the form of documentaries with music performances that are not quite Rockumentaries has surfaced. They are "the band is breaking up" cycle of such programs like **Dig!** or **I Am Trying To Break Your Heart** (both reviewed elsewhere on this site). But what about if the band is not that good and obnoxious to a point that you can see why they broke up? Such is the case with Beulah, **A Good Band Is Easy To Kill** might have been better titled *An Obnoxious Band Is Always Bound To Implode*. That would have been more honest, though it has yet to happen to Oasis, unfortunately.

Somehow, the band cut four albums and ended their time together by late 2003 touring for an album called **Yoko**. Instead of being about the music, it is an exercise in watching several grown adult males regress into temper tantrums, swear at the time, insult each other and be remarkably joyless. You know you are in trouble when they are insulting acts more talented than they are as if they cut music that was so exceptionally significant. They are not guilty of this alone, as many better known acts even make grand (and embarrassing) pronouncements about how good or important their work is. No wonder Rock is in trouble.

If the music was more likable, this might have been more tolerable, but these guys are a disaster, though they may not have started that way. This runs 90 minutes, but you get the idea after 15. Definitely for fans only, it is amazing they did not kill each other at the conclusion. The final text notes at the end prove how half-assed this exercise really was. Non-fans will either be amused or more likely feel ripped off. Some changes are for good.

The 1.33 X 1 taped image is lousier than expected for a recent taping, but haphazard presentation and taping can go hand in hand. The Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo fares better, yet has no real surrounds, which is odd for a recent program with Rock music. Extras include a slate of 20 deleted scenes that deserved to be cut and a series of 17 extra music performances which suggests there was something here a long time ago that made this band possible that has been buried in some serious dysfunction. Too bad this program failed to find that, or they might have found a way to cut through the garbage. Maybe then, they could have produced something actually worthy of their aspirations. That's sad, but maybe they'll go on to do something better. This could serve as a record of what approaches not to take.

- Nicholas Sheffo



MARKET PLACE

