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DVD REVIEWS



Andrew W.K.- Who Knows? Live 1992-2004

Starring: Andrew W.K.

Studio: Music Video Distribution

Buy on Amazon.com

There is one man in music who can make wearing white jeans look cool; this man also has a positive aura around him that can instantly make any crowd he plays for simply happy to be alive. This man is Andrew W.K. His recent release, Who Knows? is a DVD that brings his insane live energy on to your TV screen. If one work could summarize this DVD in its entirety it would simply be: mayhem.

This video starts off very dark and somber with the narrator offering some biographical information about Andrew W.K. During the between song banter, Andrew also shares some of his own philosophy on having fun and also talks a bit about how he started out. He mentions when he first started in New York City, his live show consisted of himself, a drum machine, and keyboard. He then traveled to Florida to form a solid band. He felt his music would be best expressed through a full band and that is how he has continued to tour ever since. Who Knows? ends strangely with Andrew taking a super long and eerie walk away from the studio. This ending fits in with the artsy camera shots of alleyways and walls between songs on the DVD.

The first video kicks in for "Violent Life" which is taped straight through of one performance. A number of songs on the video are done in the same manner, but unfortunately the sound quality is a bit muffled. Songs like "I Love NYC", "I Get Wet" and "Party Hard" are shown in a montage format comprised of clips from a few live shows and sound much more clear. The jumpy camera cuts on these are dizzying but get the idea across of being at an Andrew W.K. show. For those who have never had the opportunity to see him live, this DVD is a glimpse of just how insane his performance is. At one point, the stage is actually overtaken by the crowd who storm the stage and remain there, crowd surfing and all. For "Totally Stupid" Andrew is on stage in a wheelchair with a broken foot, and still rocks our just as hard as usual.

The best song featured on Who Knows? is by far "I Love NYC". Not only is it just a great song, but also is put together in such a hilarious fashion. It is a montage of clips from various places where Andrew has performed the song live. Cuts include him singing "I love Ohio City", "I love Idaho" and "I love Colorado" in place of "I love New York City". The song, energy and crowd reaction are the perfect example of his live show and how much he enjoys putting on an amazing show.

Andrew W.K. is all about showing people how to have a good time and encouraging them to live life to the fullest. The DVD booklet actually pays homage to this philosophy and is a great example of his purest intent, to show his audience a good time through music. The booklet is chock full of information about the man behind the wet hair, white jeans and t-shirt. Reading the booklet offers insight to a side of Andrew that is not his on stage persona but his real self; oddly enough the two are one in the same.

Features:

Additional Footage

Audio:

ENGLISH: Dolby Digital 5.1

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MOR

Favorite Songs:

I Love NYC, Party Hard and Totally Stupid

Rating: NR

Running Time: 75 mins

Extras Rating: ★★★★★

Overall Rating: ★★★★★

Reviewer: eMily

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