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Listening with extreme prejudice

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Audio-Visuals

THE STORY OF UFO: TOO HOT TO HANDLE (1969-1993) Directed by various

(Cherry Red Films/MVD)

What to make of poor old UFO? Vocalist Phil Mogg and bassist Pete Way were the guts of this blue collar band that never got big in the U.S. or in their native U.K. Stylistically they were a bit of a bridge between the bombast of big bands like Led Zeppelin and the hair metal bands of the 80s. Dated outfits aside, they didn't embarrass themselves...not often, at least...with the music; check out "The Coming of Prince Kujuku" to laugh along with the band. In fact, they churned out a number of good songs, including "Lights Out," "Too Hot to Handle," and "Doctor Doctor."

This DVD is mostly concert footage taken from their numerous tours, and it's interspersed with commentary from Mogg, Way, Michael Schenker (whose fluid playing was sorely missed after he left), Def Leppard's Joe Elliot, Iron Maiden's Steve Harris and more.

The band wielded respectable power live, knocking out not only the "hits," but energetic reworkings of Eddie Cochran's "Come On Everybody" and Elvis Presley's "Mystery Train." Heck, just watching Michael Schenker play is reason enough to give this one a spin. *Brian Briscoe* [buy it]

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