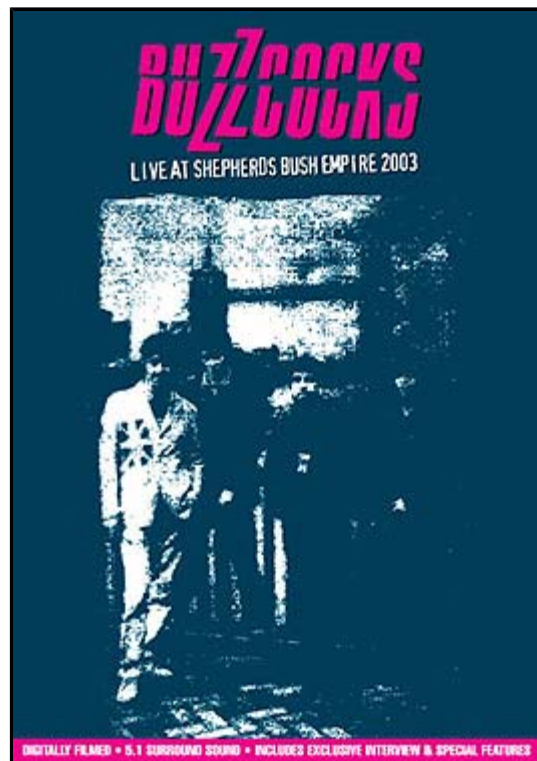


Buzzcocks: Live at Shepherd's Bush Empire 2003

Reviewed by Winslow Leach



THE REVIEW: Buzzcocks were formed in Manchester, England in the mid 70s by two kids named Pete Shelley (lead vocals) and Howard Devoto. The name "Buzzcocks" was taken from a local slang word used by the older people which meant "young kids". The group use of the name was mainly influenced by its use in the UK television drama "Rock Follies". After attending a Sex Pistols show in London, the two friends arranged for the Pistols to play in their hometown at the Lesser Free Trade Hall in June 1976. Buzzcocks were going to play at this concert themselves and open for the Pistols but they didnt have any bass player or drummer at the time. They then hired musicians John Maher and Steve Diggle on and they played their first concert with the Sex Pistols the following month in July. At the end of 1976, the Buzzcocks had recorded a 4 track EP called "Spiral Scratch" on their own recording label called "New Hormones". Buzzcocks' music was incredibly energetic and infectious, and their early song "Boredom" was a huge hit with the punk audiences. As soon as the punk rock movement started to become a mainstream fad, Buzzcock's co-founder Howard Devoto split and formed another band called "Magazine" which was something more stage performance based. Pete Shelley continued to sing, but bassist Steve Diggle moved to guitar and the band added Steve Garvey as the bass player. Soon after, Buzzcocks signed to a major label: United Artists Records. The band's first single was called "Orgasm Addict", a sexually themed track that was relatively unique for a punk band at the time since most punk songs didn't talk about the subject. The band went on to record three albums: "Another Music In A Different Kitchen" (1978), "Love Bites"(1978) and "A Different Kind of Tension"(1979). Their singles were later put on a CD

compilation called "Singles Going Steady". The band recorded some demo tracks in 1981, but then broke up, thereafter Pete Shelley started a solo career. In 1993, the band reformed with some different members including Mike Joyce (drums), Tony Barber (bass) and Phil Barker (drums). In 2002, Pete Shelley and Howard Devoto teamed up again after 20 + years to make an electronic punk album under the name "Buzzkunst". Buzzcock's got a second wave of popularity when their song "What Do I Get" was used for a Toyota ad.

**BUZZCOCKS LINEUP (2003): PETE SHELLEY
(Vocals/Guitar), STEVE DIGGLE (Vocals/Guitar),
TONY BARBER (Bass), PHILIP BARKER (Drums)**

This DVD of a live performance by Buzzcocks in 2003 is a purely energizing and fun. The band plays 32 songs back to back in traditional punk style and its just a blast to listen to/watch. Pete Shelley's voice is as great as ever and the whole concert is an adrenaline fueled raucous celebration. CULT CLASH highly recommends this new DVD featuring one of the most influential UK punk rock bands!

SONGS PERFORMED:

1. boredom 2. fast cars 3. i don't mind 4. love battery 5. autonomy (dedicated to joe strummer) 6. oh shit 7. harmony in my head 8. jerk 9. love you more 10. breakdown 11. something's gone wrong again 12. sitting round at home 13. wake up call 14. get on your own 15. driving you insane 16. keep on 17. mad mad judy 18. totally from the heart 19. friends 20. lester sands 21. noise annoys 22. i believe 23. you know you can't help it 24. what do i get 25. times up 26. i don't know what to do with my life 27. sixteen 28. why she's a girl from the chainstore 29. you say you don't love me 30. promises 31. orgasm addict 32. ever fallen in love with someone (you shouldn't have fallen in love with)

THE DVD

REGION: 0

STUDIO: Music Video Distributors/Secret Films

FILM SPECS: Presented in (4:3) Fullscreen. Color. Shot On Digital. Picture transfer looks perfect.

EXTRAS: Interviews and More!

AUDIO: Dolby Digital 5.1 Surround Sound. Turn the volume up on your home theater system and rock out!!

BUY THE BUZZCOCKS: LIVE AT SHEPHERDS BUSH EMPIRE 2003