



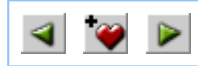
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Dual Forces: Chrome & Helios Creed

DUAL FORCES: [CHROME](#) & [HELIOS CREED](#)

Directed by Dan Wagner et al

[\(MVD\)](#)

A true psychedelic eccentric, Helios Creed has been torturing his effects boxes and slashing his guitar for a good quarter of a century, both on his own and with the infamous Chrome. Along the way he's helped to pioneer industrial music (even though his output bears little in common with Ministry et al) and kept the flame of acid-drenched skronk alive and sickly.

Dual Forces collects ultra-rare videos from Chrome's early 80s heyday and Creed's 90s and current work. The former bits come across as low-budget versions of what MTV new wave bands were trying to do (if they'd been forced psilocybin, that is). The focus of the clips is squarely on the late Damon Edge, who fronted Chrome during its glory years; the contrast between his All-American good looks and the strange, distorted sounds coming from his lip-synching mouth is as trippy as any of the multi-colored filters and reverse-negatives utilized by director Dan Wagner. Also included are the never-before released clip for "Firebomb," plus a live shot of "Armageddon," from the Creed-fronted version of Chrome the guitarist led in the 90s.

The Creed solo vids lead with a pair from his acclaimed years with the Amphetamine Reptile label; "Your Spaceman" and "The Rant" do a good job of distinguishing his output from that of Chrome, being less tied to the new wave era and more about living an acid-altered life in the 21st century. "Sandbox Jungle" (featuring Edge's widow Fabienne Shine on vocals) and a live "Beginning of Light," both from Creed's latest record **Deep Blue Love Vacuum**, also contrast nicely with Chrome, especially as they're two of his most song-oriented numbers. (Which isn't to say they're not overwhelming assaults on your ganglia, but they have some of the most accessible melodies in his catalog.) As a bonus in this section, there's an Easter egg that links to a titanic concert cut of "Exodus," from Creed's snarling Man's Ruin album **Activated Condition**.

Considering that both the original Chrome records and Creed's AmRep output are tragically out of print, **Dual Forces** may be the only way for current or new Creed fans to get to know his previous work. Fortunately, it's an entertaining way to make the acquaintance of one of psychedelic rock's most unique personalities. *Michael Toland*

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