

# FILM FANADDICT

WENDY O. WILLIAMS AND THE PLASMATICS: 10 YEARS OF REVOLUTIONARY ROCK AND ROLL finally gives fans a commercial release from the legendary, amazing, highly influential yet underappreciated band/artist. It traces the ten year history of singer Wendy O. Williams through her career with the Plasmatics and solo years following. While much of the footage here is absolutely priceless and a decent amount of solid information is delivered there are several major faults to the release. My biggest gripe is the narration which is edited so tightly and goes so fast, sentences run together and one has to pay close attention to follow along with it. This also makes it difficult to take in several instances of news/magazine clippings presented on the screen. Although interviews clips are provided by guitarist Wes Beech, drummer T.C. Tolliver and a couple of crew members, where are other significant participants? One wonders why creator of the band and Wendy's companion until her suicide, Rod Swenson is not present. Also, where are other band members like Richie Stotts and Jean Beauvoir? Another major gripe is the editing of interview footage from various critics, etc. For some reason portions of sentences are edited out making those talking have sudden head jerks and make me wonder how their statements may have been skewed. It is incredibly annoying as well and along with the narration issue can provide for some irritation while viewing. It also would have been nice if the early stages of the band were discussed a little bit more in length as it jumps pretty much from the band getting together, quickly summarizing their singles (which were a significant part of their early years, garnering incredible sales and even charting) and getting right to their first full album. Since the band was so visual you immediately get a sense of what they were about, there is no way around that and within the two hour running time one does get a good overall look at Wendy and her career. There's plenty of bonus live footage and video clips that fans will enjoy. It also goes to show that there is a lot of great quality footage of the band available and a future DVD of these full clips would be very much of interest (along with their spectacular "Pier 62" show!!). Even with its multiple flaws it is great to finally see something available on one of the most overlooked and greatest bands of all time. For a solid look at the roots and career of the Plasmatics you must check out the book: "Your heart in your mouth"

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