

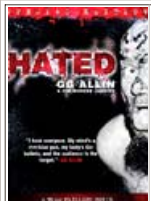


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## hated dvd

**HATED**  
GG Allin and the Murder Junkies  
(MVD)

Director Todd Phillips puts it all in perfect perspective when he says that GG Allin and the Murder Junkies, *'represent a part of America that most people prefer not to think about, an alienated directionless minority that appears to have found its voice in a punk rocker with a death wish.'* Watching this excellent 1994 documentary nothing is more evident. GG Allin's sheer existence was motivated, triggered, fed and charged by its surroundings, and whether the root of his behavior was a result of his environment (his hometown friends talk about Allin not ever being the same after his brother Merle secretly fed him acid) or he was born that way, is totally irrelevant.

The most striking parts of Hated are definitely the live footage. Allin's live shows seemed to be attended by a large percentage of hesitant and curious onlookers looking for a freak show and another percentage of true GG fans; a portion of which seemed happy to go the extra mile by allowing Allin to punch them out or smear them with just shat shit. His shows were super violent and often cut short because of fights with the public and police intervention. Towards the end of Hated, during a show fifteen of Allin's fans jump on stage and beat him so badly they break his arm. Then he got arrested. So much for loving Allin's art and antics. GG didn't seem to mind though, through Hated we see how time and time again a naked and drunk Allin provokes the audience, bashes the mike against his forehead, picks a random member of the audience only to drag him/her to stage by the hair. The outcome seemed to be the same all the time with the audience retaliating through more violence. Beyond that, the anti social and extreme persona, there was a real musician with a substantial, appealing and surprisingly melodic body of work. Unfortunately, his punk rock records have definitely been overshadowed by his antics.

Unlike many rock documentaries, Hated has a real story as told by very eloquent images and insider interviews including Allin's band The Murder Junkies, his mother, teachers and hometown friends. If there is anything I didn't like about Hated is its length; clocking at about sixty minutes, it feels like we are being short changed. More content including extended interviews with GG would have been nice. Fortunately for us, MVD has added plenty of bonus material in the form of live footage, an extended interview with Allin's mother and a new hour long with Allin's brother/guitarist Merle and drummer Dino Sex.

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