



**Mission of Burma** - *Not A Photograph* (DVD, [Music Video Distributors](#), Documentary)

This DVD is in many ways very similar to **The Pixies'** *loudQUIETloud* documentary that was also released recently (and reviewed elsewhere in this review section). The overall approaches of the two documentaries are very similar...but the end result is very, very different. *Not A Photograph* begins with a few clips of the band early in their career, along with brief glimpses of the super cool band that spawned **Mission of Burma...The Moving Parts**. Lots of interview segments follow, as the band prepares for their reunion...which takes place more than 20 years after their last performance in 1983. When this band was together originally, we heard one or two of their tunes that didn't make much of an impression on us. The songs sounded *okay* but...at the time we were far more hypnotized with other bands that were more well-suited for our tastes. Just the same, we saw this documentary as a way of potentially opening our eyes and ears up to something that we might have missed. In our opinion, the main objective of a reunion is to recreate the original energy of the band. If that is indeed the case, then we must sadly report that this reunion was not a big success (very much *unlike* The Pixies reunion which was a resounding and surprising mindblower). The three guys in Mission of Burma were originally quite explosive and played really, really, *really* hard. The reunited band...just doesn't have the same explosive power (at least not from what we could determine from this DVD)...and the audiences do not appear to be overly excited. We were hoping that we would come away from this documentary feeling like reborn Mission of Burma fans. Instead, we ended up feeling like we did when we were originally exposed to the band's music. The music of Mission of Burma still sounds...*okay*. Diehard fans and music historians will probably hate us for coming to such a blasphemous conclusion. Oh well. No big deal because if they do...that's...*okay too*. The best things about this DVD are that (a) it was professionally prepared and (b) it contains rare footage of The Moving Parts in concert. (Rating: 3+)

