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Alright, all the pretension stops here. I knew this band by name from way back, however I never got around to checking their music. The industrial style I had heard so much about never really appealed to me which to tell you the truth is the second reason why I never bothered with these Teutonics. The first reason of course is that I never grew the balls to walk up to a record store clerk and ask for a Einstürzende Neubauten record. That's mostly because I have no idea how to pronounce that name. But I have always known of their existence, influence and status as godfathers of industrial music. Checking this neatly filmed DVD, I can see that bands/theatrical acts/fools/etc as ordinary as The Blue Man Group have copied this band's gimmicks. No, the Neubauten don't paint themselves in colors, nor have played Las Vegas or Orlando for extended periods of time, but do rely heavily on percussion to create this mechanic music. Some of it is drums, but mostly the band picks up the experimental tag by using all sorts of junk (trash cans, cardboard boxes, scraps of metal, pipes, springs, air compressors, etc, etc) in all sorts of way to charge their music with textures. And they don't only bang on the stuff; they literally make love to it, caress it, incite it with a stick, punch it, drag it through the crowd, etc, etc. There are guitars there too, but their sound, at least during this presentation, is not that prominent.

Recorded on their 26th year anniversary at Berlin's Palast der Republik, the building that housed the East German Parliament before demolition started in 2006, this DVD displays plenty of material mostly taken from 2004's *Perpetuum Mobile*. A couple of things are evident right off the bat; vocalist Blixa Bargeld has not only a commanding voice but is one of those rare frontmen whose mere black-clad and barefoot presence captures the audience and serves as the focus of attention. And second the band does its part, focusing on the music and leaving the visuals to the bare stage that hosts them. Not being very familiar with the Neubauten's music, I can not attest as to how this material stands in comparison to their old material, what I can tell you instead is that the performance starts hard and strong with a moving and loud song that subsequently dives for a few minutes of tender quietness and layered almost hushed sounds. Towards the third part of the show, things get moving again and we are treated to the presence of a choir comprised of fans. You can tell this mostly because they look like your regular German youth and they don't necessarily sound like a choir.

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