



## **Einsturzende Neubauten**

**Palast Der Republik MVD Visual \* \* \* \***

Blixa & Co at work amid the rubble of the GDR

After a mere 27 years as a functioning band Neubauten finally release their first official concert DVD. Though by no means the first Neubauten DVD to be released - that particular honour belongs to the Halber Mensch documentary from 1986 - Palast Der Republik is the first complete Neubauten show to be available on DVD. In classic Neubauten style this is no run of the mill concert film but the document of an extraordinary event. Namely, Neubauten's historic one-off appearance on a specially constructed stage inside the skeletal frame of the former East German parliament building prior to its demolition in what was formerly East Berlin. Only Neubauten with their unique standing within German music and cultural circles could have come up with as appropriate a location for a live DVD as the architectural ruin that was the defunct Palast Der Republik at the time this concert was filmed in November 2004. Despite the vast battery of customised percussion instruments littering the stage the Neubauten live experience captured here is about much more than merely hammering out a series of controlled earthquakes as evidenced by their increasing reliance on electronics and the incorporation of a 100 member choir drawn from members of their online supporters project. With Neubauten in this sort of form seeing *and* hearing is truly believing.

- Grahame Bent