

THE JESUS LIZARD | Live | Video Music, Inc.

The Jesus Lizard played some of the most slicing riffs and tight noise rock of the '90s. On their studio efforts, there's a good chance that singer David Yow's muffled ranting helped insure that the band would never hit it as big as contemporaries like Tool. But, Yow also is the primary reason that The Jesus Lizard was one of the most explosive live bands of the decade.

(I saw the band cause a near riot at a Vail, Colorado show. The venue told Yow to quit uttering obscenities onstage, and he responded with a stream of swearing. The venue cut off the band's main amplifiers, but they kept playing anyway under a shower of plastic cups tossed by the crowd.)

In this concert DVD, Yow staggers around the stage like a drunk dragged in from the street while the band plays spiky riffs and rhythms with laser precision. He also sings the better part of some songs including

"Seasick" while crowd surfing atop the audience. It's a compelling document for fans of The Jesus Lizard and those who appreciate noisy art rock, but others should sample a snippet of the band's music before purchasing this no-frills concert film. —Stuart

Thornton