



This trio was the godfather of punk, and punk the mother of Two Tone; its father, of course, was reggae, whose dancehalls gave birth to rap, and the likes of the Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy. Former Hero Michael Franti shifted tactics from angry bile to good vibrations via his band Spearhead, their sound an inspired gumbo of bouncy rock, sultry R&B, hiphop lite, and world rhythms, all tinged with a Latino styling.

The music is fantastic, the show an absolute delight, but it's Franti's insightful, intelligent, politically aware raps and lyrics that truly mesmerize the crowd, even when its arena sized, as it was in Sydney in 2003. Ripping a page from the socially conscious Jamaican artists, Franti delivers his positive messages with a musical punch. This disc puts the DVD on one side, and CD audio on the flip, allowing you to carry the tunes and vibes with you wherever you go.

Jo-Ann Greene