



Released by:
Music Video
Distributors

Year of Release:
1978

Running time:
96 min.

Rating:
UR

Color format:
Color

Audio / Subtitles:
5.1 Dolby Digital
Stereo

Region Code:
1, NTSC

Aspect Ratio:
Widescreen

16:9 enhanced?
No

Special Features*:
Director's
Commentary,
Interview with the
director and producer,
Poster Gallery and
Radio Ads, Two
Rockers music videos,

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DVD REVIEW

ROCKERS (1978)

Directed by Theodoros Bafaloukos

Review by David Carter



influential **A HARD DAY'S NIGHT**, musicians began to see film as another medium through which they could entertain and educate. Though often overshadowed by **THE HARDER THEY COME**, **ROCKERS** should be seen as the definitive film statement on Jamaican Reggae culture.

Leroy "Horsemouth" Wallace essentially portrays himself: a legendary Reggae drummer. Horsemouth can't seem to make ends meet with the little money he brings in from session work however. He borrows some money from his wife and friends to buy a motorcycle so he can begin to "hustle" and a sell records of the music that is his whole life. When the motorcycle, the source of his livelihood, is stolen, Horsemouth's usually easy-going nature is broken and he plans to get it back. Gathering his Rastafarian friends (a who's who of late seventies Reggae), Horsemouth turns his ideals into a modern day twist on Robin Hood and gets his revenge on those who are oppressing his people.

Though many viewers may not be familiar with Reggae music or the Rastafarian culture, **ROCKERS** does a wonderful job of making it easy for anyone to identify with Horsemouth and his situation. Not an action film by any means, **ROCKERS** excellently holds the viewer's attention despite a lack of much plot. This is largely due to the fact that everyone in the film is basically playing himself or herself. Though this was the first and only time many of them acted, everyone is relaxed and natural, often giving the viewer the impression they are simply spying on these character's everyday life.



Film has been inextricably linked with popular music since the early twentieth century. A natural fit, film and music are two of the most universal forms of entertainment. Their appeal crosses borders, cultures, and ideals. After the Beatles released their

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A glossary and Reggae Biography section

Trailer online:
[Yes](#)

A red and white promotional banner for DVD rentals. It features the text "DVD Rentals Delivered Only \$9.99/mo. Click here" and a small red box with the word "NETFLIX" in white.

(* We do not consider trailers, bios or chapter stops to be special features!)

Some viewers may be turned off by the fact that Jamaican accents and slang are almost indecipherable. Fortunately, there are sporadic subtitles throughout the film for the harder to understand dialogue. Included as a special feature is a glossary of slang, which I strongly recommend going through before watching the film. You'll find it incredibly helpful. It is a shame that **THE HARDER THEY COME** is far more known than **ROCKERS**. The film easily holds its own against its more popular predecessor, and in some regards, is a more enjoyable film.



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