

## East of Sunset

(DVD & CD set, Eclectic DVD Distribution / Music Video Distributors)

An unhealthy love affair between two unhealthy individuals. **Emily Stiles** plays Carly, an emotionally cold, distant, selfish, demanding, gaunt young woman addicted to Xanax...who falls in love with a gaunt young artist/bartender named Jim (played by **Jimmy Wayne Farley**)...who just happens to be a heroin addict. Although the two seem to be doomed from the very start, for some unknown reason they both seem unable to stay away from one another. Their unstable relationship weaves and twists in a startlingly familiar fashion, as the film realistically portrays the lives of two drug addicted alcoholics. The soundtrack is (appropriately) provided by a variety of artists covering **Tom** Waits songs (an audio CD of the tracks is included with the DVD). Things take a turn for the worse when Carly takes another man home to her apartment. Jim's roommate happens to see the two leave the bar together so he calls Jim and tells him, which then leads to Jim's death. To cope, Carly drinks more than normal and takes even more Xanax. Like the two lead characters, this film moves very, very slowly. Although East of Sunset is a low budget film, some real pros worked on the project (Brian McNelis, Chris Squires, Chris **Boscardin**). As a result, the film is visually very slick and professional and has a really nice flow. Some might complain that the film goes nowhere...but in the end, that is exactly why it succeeds. By portraying people as they really are, the film shows how dreary and meaningless the lives of alcoholics and drug addicts can be. Stark, depressing, and lonely... (Rating: 4++++)



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