

Cut Shorts - A Collection of Short Films and Music Videos by David *Markey from 1974-2004* (CD, Eclectic DVD / Music Video Distributors) Cut Shorts is an intriguing overview of underground film maker David Markey's work. Markey is a true underground spirit, as is evidenced by these quickly made experimental shorts. Beginning with Markey's first film he made when he was only eleven (The Devil's Exorcist), it quickly becomes evident that this fellow knew what he was doing even at a very young age. As he progressed in his career, Markey obviously became very fond of mixing music from cutting edge bands with strange collages that reflected his and his friends' lives at the time. Sometimes the pieces seem like random edits...while at other times the various pieces form wonderfully surreal and hallucinogenic statements about life in America (masks are a recurring theme throughout these films). Markey used and/or worked with artists and bands like Devo, Algebra Suicide, Sonic Youth, Redd Kross and more. Some of the shorts on this disc are absolutely fantastic. Our favorites are *Plasticland* (wow...!), the bizarre clown imagery in *Popcorn*, and the herky jerky images in *Burning Palms On* Jennifer's Coffee Table. Some might dismiss Markey's films as being nothing more than sloppy home movies...but they would be missing the point entirely. No matter what you make of this, these films do have significant historical and artistic merit. It's a hit and miss affair here...but when you're messing with artistic mediums like Markey does, this is to be expected. Fascinating. (Rating: 5)



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