


[HOME](#)
[CURRENT ISSUE](#)
[NEWS](#)
[REVIEWS](#)
[CLIPS/TRAILERS](#)
[SUBSCRIBE](#)
[FORUMS](#)
[CONTACT](#)

Whats New?

Exclusive
[Arresting Developments in the Works](#)

Exclusive
[Valderrama: Viva El Muerto](#)

Exclusive
[Laurie on Perry in Superman Returns](#)

TV News
[Noxon Calls on Old Friends](#)

DVD Review
[Troy](#)

DVD Review
[Jimi Hendrix: The Last 24 Hours](#)

DVD Review
[Short Cuts](#)

Comic Book Review
[Spider-Man/Human Torch #1](#)

Game Review
[Ping Pals DS](#)

DVD Review
[Animal Farm](#)

TV News
[Galactica Blog-ing Across the Universe](#)

Rumor Patrol
[Bakula Wants Out of Enterprise?](#)

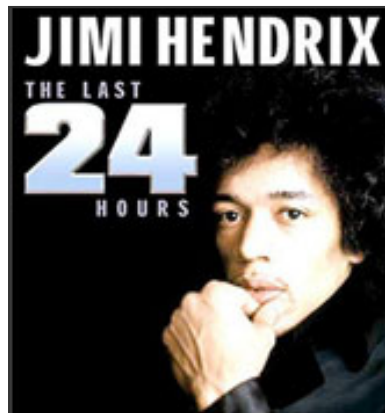
Movie News
[Fat Bat](#)

Comic Book News
[Bagley Keeps Web-Spinning](#)

[Home](#) > [Reviews](#) > [DVD Review](#) > [Jimi Hendrix: The Last 24 Hours](#)

Tuesday, 18 January 2005

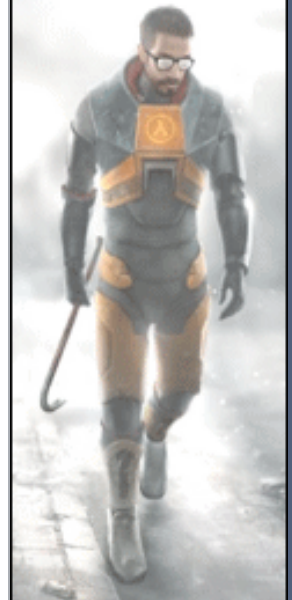
Jimi Hendrix: The Last 24 Hours

 Contributed by Brent Simon
Tuesday, 18 January 2005


If there's one thing Americans love more than our celebrities, it's conspiracy theories about our celebrities taken too soon, and in this regard — if not much more — director Michael Parkinson's documentary *Jimi Hendrix: The Last 24 Hours* fulfills an important need. A sort of cinematic morsel, the filmic equivalent of a tabloid primer, this hour-long flick takes a look, ostensibly, at the controversial death of rock guitar god Hendrix, contending it was not in fact a drug overdose or accident but rather the result of a shady and nefarious collusion on the part of the Mafia and the CIA.

If that seems a tall order for just 62 minutes of running time, well, you're expecting things that *The Last 24 Hours* isn't going to even attempt to deliver on. And that's the problem, quite frankly. The film does a decent job of elucidating Hendrix's dichotomous persona — towering musical godsend on one hand, and, offstage, shy, retiring and passive to a fault (particularly in business dealings) on the other. But it poorly intertwines its biographical sketch of the man with its explosive hypothesis on his death. Interviews with Hendrix archivist Steve Roby, former publicist Keith Altham and others are intercut in awkward fashion with sub-*America's Most Wanted* reenactments and archival concert footage, making for a herky-jerky viewing experience akin to *Rainbow Bridge*, the psychedelic claptrap feature film Hendrix appeared in months before his passing in 1970.

Amidst the tales of drugs and groupies, *The Last 24 Hours* concentrates on two figures of some inscrutability — 24-year-old German ice skating instructor Monika Danneman, Hendrix's sorta-flame, and Mike Jeffrey, Hendrix's manager and a widely accepted crooked one at that. The movie posits that the latter, with possible Mob ties, played a role in arranging Hendrix's death and the former was threatened into silence. Admittedly vast and mutually exclusive incongruities — Hendrix was said to have choked on his own vomit in his sleep, yet his lungs were also "full of red wine" — are embraced as evidence of conspiratorial foul play rather than investigated from different angles for what they are, namely the memories and

[<click here>](#)


www.
chipbits
.com
Your #1

Music News
[Hollywood Bush](#)

This Month In Print



Polls

What console system(s) do you own or play?

- PlayStation 2
- Xbox
- Gamecube
- PS2 & Xbox
- PS2 & Gamecube
- Xbox & Gamecube

Featured Clip



Login Form

recollections of a bunch of strung-out folks. The end result is a document that, infuriatingly, raises more questions than it even tries to answer.

Disc extras are sparse, with only a Hendrix biography/discography and a wan image gallery of 14 photographs. There is, however, a quite nice, pocket-size 32-page booklet on Hendrix that serves as a de-facto read-along biographical companion to the movie, replete with color photographs. Even that plus, however, is counteracted by the closing paragraph that states that Hendrix's star was prematurely extinguished "like Janis Joplin, Keith Richards, Jim Morrison, Elvis and John Lennon." Ummm... fact check, anyone? I know .800 would be a great batting average in baseball, but in horseshoes, hand grenades and blatantly obvious obituaries, it's another matter. C- (Movie) B (Disc)

For more in-depth DVD coverage, [subscribe](#) to *Now Playing Magazine* today!

YOUR #1
 Game Store

Username

Password

Remember me

[Forgotten your password?](#)

[No account yet? Create one](#)

[Browser Prefs](#)

[Add to Favorites](#)

[Make Home Page](#)

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Press Releases](#) | [Advertising Info](#)