

Sound and Vision Wading through the flood of music DVDs By Scott Harrell

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As digital video technology gets increasingly easier and less expensive, more and more elements of the music industry are employing the DVD format as both promotion and product. It's not just the major labels these days - everyone from unsigned bands to package-tour promoters to longtime fans with tons of archival footage on their hands is investing in releases that marry the music to images and an almost unlimited potential for "special features" (read: superfluous crap).

LEATHERFACE - Boat in the Smoke

(Punkervision)

The Gist: A full 16-song 2004 set from the cult-legendary British punk band, shot with a couple of cameras and, from the sound of it, recorded off the soundboard. This is about as low budget as it comes; the stage-sound-intensive mix mutes the live feel (crowd noise is almost nonexistent), but it's obvious an attempt was made to deliver a quality product with the resources available.

The Extras: Seven additional, barely audible tunes from a 2001 gig in Leatherface singer-songwriter Frankie Stubbs' hometown of Sunderland; and a lengthy, entertaining interview with Stubbs in which he picks his nose, plugs South Florida band The Enablers and does an impression of Hot Water Music's Chris Wollard.

The Verdict: Better than a bootleg, but not very much. For diehard fans. (www.punkervision.com)