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The Bellrays

@ *the Barfly*

Music Video Distributors

The Bellrays are known for their intense live shows, and while watching them on your TV is a cheap substitute for a poorly lit, smoky club, this DVD does manage to capture their blistering fusion of punk and R&B. Culled from an evening in London, this is mostly comprised of material from 2003's *The Red, White and Black* and five extra songs. Even if the material were lackluster, there would still be something to be said about singer Lisa Kekaula (who's been belting it out for the DKT/MC5), whose throaty, aggressive voice is a chip off the old Tina Turner block. She manages to keep banal onstage banter to a minimum, outside of the occasional call for response from the audience members. Instead, the band makes sure the jams are kicked at all times. The maximum roc 'n' soul of "Sister Disaster" and "Voodoo Train" shows the band has enough raw power to light Detroit, while "Making Up for Lost Time" reveals a softer, '60s pop side. While the 18-minute interview included is as dull as a plastic butter knife, the band's explosive set is worth the price of admission.

— **Luke Allen Hackney**