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Category: Home > Reviews > Rock > Pop > Documentary > Concert > Ladies & Gentlemen, The Rolling Stones (1973/Eagle Blu-ray) + Let's Spend The Night Together (1983/aka Time Is On Our Side/Lionsgate DVD) + The Rolling Stones – Rare & Unseen (MVD Visual DVD) + Stones

Ladies & Gentlemen, The Rolling Stones (1973/Eagle Blu-ray) + **Let's Spend The Night Together** (1983/aka **Time Is On Our Side**/Lionsgate DVD) + **The Rolling Stones – Rare & Unseen** (MVD Visual DVD) + **Stones In Exile** (Eagle DVD)

Picture: C+ (Ladies: B-) Sound: C+ (Ladies: B) Extras: C+/C-/D/C+ Concerts/Documentaries: B

As Universal reissued The Rolling Stones' classic album **Exile On Main Street** in various special and limited editions, several companies decided to issue various programs on home video that all turned out to be terrific and well worth the time of fans and non-fans alike to enjoy. Coming from three sources outside of Universal Music, it shows that there is plenty of great Stones material to go around.

Ladies & Gentlemen, The Rolling Stones is a 1973) concert film shot during their 1972 North America tour and shows the band in exceptional form singing hits like *Brown Sugar*, *Gimme Shelter*, *Tumbling Dice*, *Jumpin' Jack Flash*, *Street Fighting Man* and nine other songs as they were on the best run of albums they ever cut. This runs 90 well-edited minutes and as the only Blu-ray in this bunch is the best-looking for the four releases, though not always what I expected. Nevertheless, it is very entertaining and Producer/Director Rollin Binzer has created a very underrated look at the band that has been out of circulation far too long.

Let's Spend The Night Together (1983/aka **Time Is On Our Side**/Lionsgate DVD) is one of the only concert films ever totally shot in 65mm negative/70mm format, but the great Director Hal Ashby manages to capture the band at their later, grand peak as they were *still* in their original run as a major band whose every new album was not just another release, but an event. This is often a stunning presentation, top rate and one of the most underrated concert films.

The Rolling Stones – Rare & Unseen is from the series of the same name, co-produced by Weinerworld and ITV, lasting over an hour, it is a compilation of really terrific footage that is especially rich in early filmed footage from their earliest years. Much of it looks at the Mick Taylor years, but covers all 45+ at some point and will surprise those who might underestimate it from seeming like just another catch-in release, which it definitely is not. Fans will want this one as much as any here.

Stones In Exile (2010) is the newest work here from Director Stephen Kijak showing the making of **Exile On Main Street** and including new interviews and footage of Mick Jagger and Charlie Watts returning to the house in France where the classic was made to begin with. There are plenty of great archive clips (including an alternate camera angle of Mick hitting a microphone down at a press conference in 1971 as compared to **Rare & Unseen**) and lasting about an hour, is a great look at one of the most important double albums ever made.



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> **Faces Of Schlock (2010) & Defiled (2010/Independent Entertainment DVDs)**
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The 1080p 1.85 X 1 image on **Ladies** has some good color and good shots, but for a film shot on 35mm film, I expected it to look even better than this. The shots are often softer than I would have liked throughout, looking like 16mm at times, but there are some shots that look better here than they would on a DVD just the same, while the anamorphically enhanced 1.85 X 1 image on **Night** is not the 2.20 X 1 frame it would be if we were seeing a 70mm print. Color can be great, but there are just too many shots with detail limits and softness to really show off how good this would really look. Hopefully a Blu-ray is on the way so we can see the great camera work by Directors of Photography Caleb Deschanel (**The Right Stuff**, **The Patriot**) and Gerald Feil. The 1.33 X 1 on **Rare** has some rough shots as you would expect from a compilation documentary such as this, but some of the footage is in incredible good, clean, sharp shape, including old black and white footage from their early days that especially impresses. The 1.78 X 1 image on **Exile** is a mix of new interviews, stills and fine old film footage that works very well. The new footage is nicely shot by Director of Photography Grant Gee, an exceptional Music Video director whose work includes classics with Radiohead.

The DTS-HD MA (Master Audio) 5.1 mix on **Ladies** is better than the Dolby Digital 5.1 and PCM 2.0 Stereo mixes on the Blu-ray and the sound source is in fine sonic shape. Sadly, we get no multi-channel audio on **Night**, despite that it was a 6-track magnetic stereo 70mm release, so the DVD only delivers Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo, which sounds good, but is not what it should be at all. Dolby Digital 2.0 Stereo is the only track on the remaining DVDs, which are both documentaries, which include some monophonic sound from archive footage. Besides that, they sound just fine for such productions.

Extras on **Ladies** include a 2010 Jagger interview, vintage **Old Grey Whistle Test** interview, Tour Rehearsal and three bonus songs in *Shake Your Hips*, *Tumbling Dice* and *Blueberry Jam*. **Night** has a trailer and stills. **Exile** adds Extended Interviews, a piece on Exile Fans and *Return To Stargroves & Olympic Studios*. **Rare** has no extras.

Though we have even more on the band on this site and more will soon be added without any doubt, you can try the following links for more Stones releases:

Gimme Shelter (1970/Criterion Blu-ray)

[http://www.fulvuedrive-in.com/review/9283/Gimme+Shelter+\(1970/Criterion+Colle](http://www.fulvuedrive-in.com/review/9283/Gimme+Shelter+(1970/Criterion+Colle)

Rolling Stones – The Complete 1960s Review DVD set

<http://www.fulvuedrive-in.com/review/9303/The+Rolling+Stones+In+The+1960s>

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