

KREATOR 'AT THE PULSE OF KAPITULATION' (SPV) –

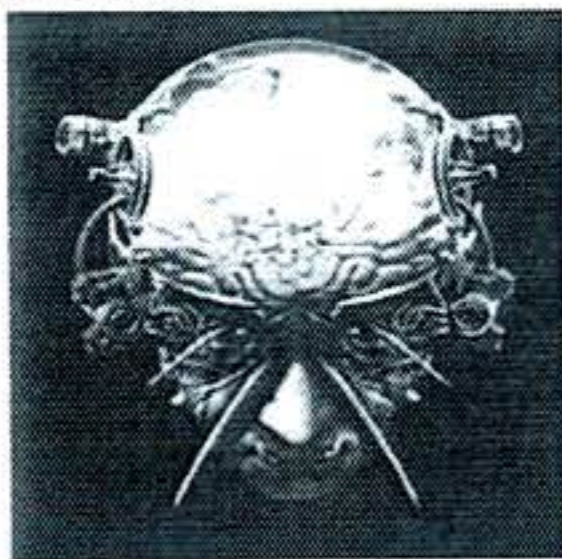
The most essential DVD for early Kreator fans, ever, a *priceless* artifact from a show that served as the end to their initial & most un-compromising era.

The packaging has a die cut-3-D sleeve holding a tri-fold cover & a booklet. The sections of the DVD are; 'Live In East Berlin-re-edit version, the 'Kreator Horror Movie'; "Hallucinative Comas-Director's Cut", (which was released years back on home video as a shorter version), & a 'Then & Now' documentary on the Berlin scene. The 1990 concert is proof positive that they had become one of the worlds premier metal acts. The 15-song set features the classic line-up of Mille-guitar-vocals, Frank Blackfire-guitar, Rob Fioretti-bass & Vantor on drums.

Demonstrating a tour that most US fans missed out on, a shame as it was the end of rarely played live cuts like "Some Pain Will Last", "Toxic Trace" & "Bringer Of Torture", " Love Us Or Hate Us" & "Behind The Mirror". All nearly flawless & full of youthful aggression with dirt under its fingernails, & the standards all became cornerstones of future sets ("Extreme Aggression", "Pleasure To Kill", "Flag Of Hate", "Betrayor", "Tormentor."). Clearly the band had *nothing but amazing* songs to choose from. So it's a win-win for an old school fans. An audio CD of the full set is included (which would've rivaled Live Without Sense had it come out in 1990).

Less perfect & more rough around the edges than the *gleaming* Revisioned Glory set from a few years ago, but for my liking, its all for the better.

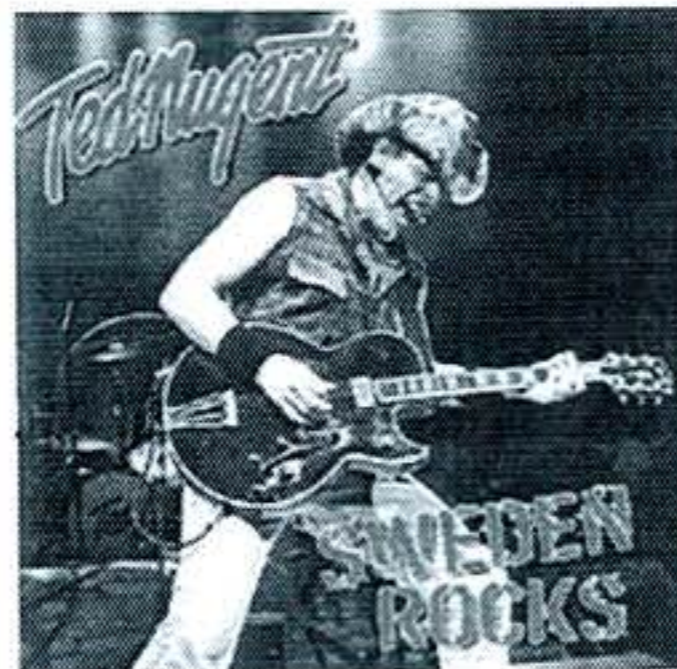
To the thrash fans, there's no better phrase I could use than buy or die! This is *utterly essential* & documents a significant moment in metal history, as well as providing the greatest live document of Kreator to ever exist.



TED NUGENT 'SWEDEN ROCKS' (Eagle Vision) –

Terrible Ted is revered for energetic performances, first captured for combustible energy that is DOUBLE LIVE GONZO, which elevated some of the best guitar cuts ever penned. A few years' later INTENSITIES IN 10 CITIES offered 10 new songs recorded 'live' in 10 cities. Years went by before the after-thought Live At Hammersmith, & with 2001 came FULL BLUNTAL NUGITY, which came closest to the benchmark of Gonzo, which remains the standard.

Enter SWEDEN ROCKS, a 15 song DVD (or 13 song CD), from a daytime set at a Swedish festival on 6-10-06, with the line-up of Mick Brown on drums & Barry Sparks on bass. Ted leads the trio through a hit-list of American rock staples. Opening with "Stormtroopin", to an overdue live take of "Wango Tango", where the rap only *slightly* resembles the rambling tirade it began as. From his self titled LP "Snakeskin Cowboys", remains an under-rated gem, unlike the over-stated "Free For All", which sports one of the worlds biggest ego's rather proudly. **Piss & vinegar attitude intact**, yet leaning to a cruising ZZ Top brand of groove that's more lewd & less crude. It gets a tad subtle & let's just say his words seem more thought out. The band swaggers through the tunes in an effortless, back to basics improv-fueled jam of loud hard rock. "Wang Dang Sweet Poontang" rocks itself into a frenzy, until smoothing out into a few bars of "Red House." The biggest compliment for the Crave songs is how closely they resemble the old shit; "Raw Dogs & War Hogs" is a virtual out-take from Free For All. "Klstrphnky" & "Still Raising Hell" are similar to middle era stuff like State Of Shock.



GORGOROTH 'BLACK MASS KRAKOW 2004' (Metal Mind) -

The infamous footage, un-tangled from its legal problems, in 2004, the band staged this over-the top show depicting a Black (Mass) Metal presentation for the filming of a 13 song set for Polish TV, & for a DVD release. Then it became confiscated over the controversial stage props that 'authorities' deemed offensive. Not to under-state its cool-ness but this footage is not *that* shocking. It's similar to shows that Mayhem has done, with impaled pig heads, pyro, barbed wire, a baphomet backline & naked girls on 4 giant crosses with hoods on their faces. The result is a visual counterpart for what seems the natural habitat for the band, with theatrics to bring the songs to life, as well as allowing the band to show the world what their full production looks like. In the case of Gorgoroth, there's *nothing* subtle, they're black metal psychos, *so deal with it*. Opening with "Procreating Satan", they go from song to song with little space in-between. **Gaahl** often has a blank gaze & doesn't fall into the front-man clichés, instead concentrating on vocals, where his performance *is* stellar. The main songwriter, Infernus stands at stage right with his white flying V. Songs span the best from all albums up to Twilight Of The Idols (although there's *nothing* from the Pentagram LP) & merely 5 cuts from the Under The Sign Of Hell opus. But generally they're just *not* a band that has many memorable songs. Their reputation relies more on being infamous for non-musical crimes. Clearly, their better material is from the pre-'98 period & latter songs fall into a *brutal for the sake of being brutal* category. A killer presentation, yet no awe-inspiring climaxes or mind blowing parts of the show, leaving their live set as lacking in dynamics & structure.

