

# The MESSAGE FOR THE WEEK

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## CBGB's To Release Series Of Rare, Live CDs *Legendary NY Punk Venue Teams Up With MVD Video Distributors*

story by Joe Milliken, Message Arts&Entertainment



CBGB founder Hilly Kristal (left) shakes hands with MVD founder and COO Ed Seaman.



Upcoming release from the CBGB Bowery Collection "Terror", live in 2004

such as Bad Brains, Dead Boys, Vibrators and the CroMags.

New York's famed CBGB's - also known as the "birthplace of punk music"- has recently announced an agreement with the Oaks, Pennsylvania-based Music Video Distributors, (MVD) to release a series of live CD titles recorded at the legendary music club in the heart of the Bowery.

Each title will feature a full-length concert from several of the many bands having graced the tiny but mighty stage of CBGB's.

Hilly Kristal, the iconic singer, songwriter, musician and founder of the club who passed away in August was a true visionary, giving new bands the opportunity to play in his club. In fact, the only rule he enforced was that a band had to play original material.

He was credited with giving many legendary punk bands their first opportunity onstage including the Ramones, Talking Heads, Blondie and Television, just to name a few.

"What I really dug about Hilly was his commitment to new artists," Ed Seaman said in an exclusive interview. Seaman is the COO of MVD.

"We were amazed that despite his already unmistakable place in punk rock history, he was still committed to doing a DVD about the recent and new acts within the punk scene."

MVD is an innovative leader in the music DVD/CD distribution industry, first developing their relationship with Hilly back in 2001, and have collaborated on such titles as CBGB's-Punk From The Bowery, and CBGB live shows from various bands

So how did this very unique relationship between Hilly and MVD forge?

"We first met Hilly about seven years ago at a music convention and started working with him on some DVD projects," Seaman said.

"We worked on some other collaborations as well and he was really happy with us," Seaman continued.

