

"Highly recommended, not just for fans of Sid Vicious or punk rock, but for people who like murder mystery/unsolved crime newsmagazine TV shows." —Andy Conway, *Sid Vicious: Final 24: His Final Hours*

presented, and it's great to see the organizers of DASW willing to criticize themselves. It was also refreshing to see the inclusion of a multitude of people of different ethnicities, orientations, genders, and *agendas* all coming together to create something that turned out to be incredibly effective. Made up of dozens of disparate activist groups (or unions or close-knit groups of friends or campus clubs or whatever), the people interviewed in *Shutdown* were the ones directly involved with the group; it was great to see critical analysis rather than shit-talking about various factions and sub-sects, something that could have easily made its way into the film.

And yet it's also this disparate, far-spanning range of people involved that made it virtually impossible to keep DASW going after the initial shutdown of downtown San Francisco. With all of these different groups with different (some of them *very* different) agendas, it became much more difficult to come up with a forward-moving *plan* after the initial shutdown was achieved... and yet the war raged on and on. Some groups believed in direct action and lockdowns, some groups believed in dancing and block parties. Who was right? Everyone had different goals. How did they move forward when no one necessarily agreed on what forward even *was*? The group eventually splintered and disbanded, fell apart.

Yet while various members of DASW were critical of themselves and the problems with the group as a whole, maybe a lot of that is unnecessary in the sense that forming and then disbanding is the very nature of organizing. Its elasticity is what oftentimes makes organizing such a powerful tool. The various factions of DASW got together, formed something larger and wonderfully dynamic and powerful that performed this tangible thing (shutting down the financial section of one of the largest cities in the United States and giving people a platform to protest a war they viewed as unjust and wrong), and then they disbanded. Poof. Fucking incredible. The self-criticism of the group was great, but recognizing that DASW achieved its initial goal and that disbanding afterwards was maybe the right thing to do shouldn't necessarily be discounted.

Like I said, the video is smart and critical—and it was so refreshing to see that all the potential for shit-talking and criticism was negated by the fact that the people criticizing were the ones that were directly involved. It's that kind of accountability that comes across as so refreshing (and rare!) in radical politics, amongst all of the infighting and shit-talking. —Keith Rosson (AK Press, 674-A 23rd St., Oakland, CA 94612-1163)

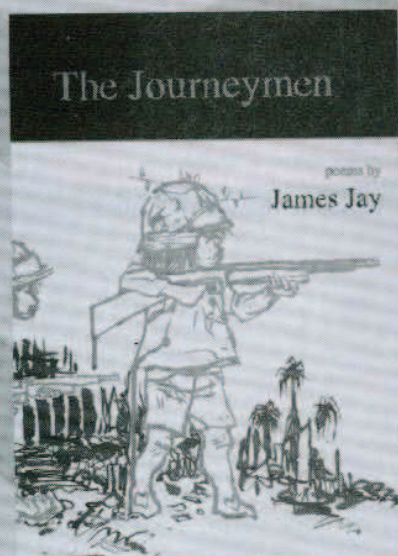
Sid Vicious: Final 24: His Final Hours: DVD

The last 24 hours in the life of Sid Vicious have always been shrouded in mystery. Many, like myself, just assumed he quietly cleaned his apartment, did Sudoku puzzles, and made tofu pad thai for dinner. Either that, or he did heroin and puked for 24 hours. Out on bail on charges of murdering his girlfriend Nancy Spungeon (of which he has no recollection) and accompanied by his crazy-ass enabler mom, Sid was on his last legs and facing his inevitable demise. What could he have been thinking? What ultimately lead to his death? Did he tell anyone to "Piss off!" in a funny Cockney British accent? Thankfully, this documentary DVD provides the answers to these probing questions.

This is fantastic stuff, extremely well produced (it originally aired on the Discovery Channel in Canada) and filled with firsthand accounts from the likes of former Sex Pistol Glen Matlock, Sid's lawyer, and even the late Pistol manager/Svengali himself, Malcolm McLaren. It also includes some great clumsily acted dramatizations, which you know you want to see. The British voiceover guy was my personal favorite part of this though, as he makes lines like "his mum bought his heroin" sound pleasant and soothing. Highly recommended, not just for fans of Sid Vicious or punk rock, but for people who like murder mystery/unsolved crime newsmagazine TV shows. —Andy Conway (MVD Entertainment Group, MVDB2B.com)

To read more independent DVD reviews, visit www.razorcake.org

New Books from **GORSKY PRESS**



The Journeymen by James Jay

Only **\$6** ppd.
(if you order directly from Gorsky)



The Hanging Gardens of Split Rock by Mike Faloon

Gorsky Press, PO Box 42024, LA, CA 90024

WWW.GORSKYPRESS.COM