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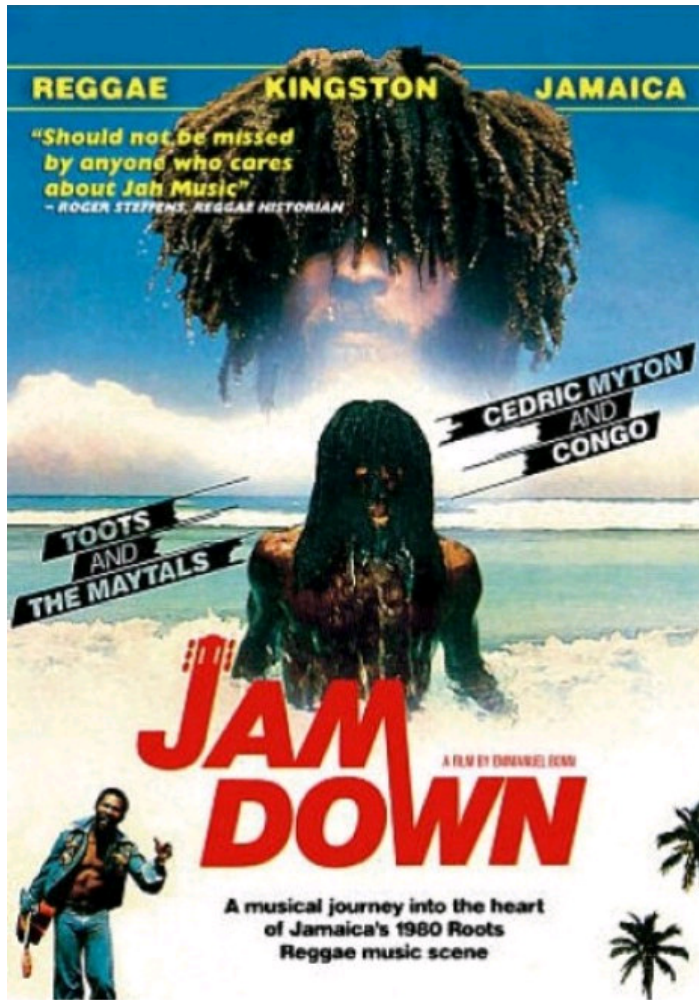
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JAMDOWN: THE HOLY GRAIL OF REGGAE FILMS

07.25.2010
05:48 pm

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Reggae
Emmanuel Bonn
Jamdown
Lee Scratch
Perry
The Congos
Black Ark
Studios
The Upsetter
Roger Steffens
Toots And The
Maytals



Jamdown, the holy grail of reggae films, is finally coming to DVD. Other than a recent screening in London, this French documentary, directed by Emmanuel Bonn, hasn't been shown theatrically or made available in any form since it was briefly released in France in 1981. *Jamdown* is essential viewing for anyone who loves reggae

Reggae historian Roger Steffens has described *Jamdown* as

[...] a melodic time machine that transports us magically to a time of massive creativity as reggae was emerging to the outside world. We see some of its most rootical exponents at the height of their powers. The film's re-emergence after three decades is almost miraculous, and it should not be missed by anyone who cares about Jah Music.

The film features some thrilling footage of The Congos and Toots And The Maytals recording at Lee 'The Upsetter' Perry's legendary Black Ark Studios.

The *Jamdown* DVD hits the streets this Tuesday, July 27.

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COMMENTS:

Jul 25, 2010

Bruce Stewart says:

This looks great, thanks for spreading the word!

Jul 25, 2010

woah. says:

Pure Toots. I'm so glad to say I've opened for him. I love it when artists do their stage show while in the studio. Not standing there hoping to get the perfect aniseptic take. He even takes his cans off and hangs them on the mic. Any engineer would cringe at that.. the contact noise! The feedback! But Lee Perry was no ordinary engineer. All according to jah plan.

The second clip is of Max Romeo. I love his records, never seen him perform though. That's what I love about late 70's and early 80's reggae.. the musicianship was high, but the ideals, soul, and grittiness were not compromised.

So happy to see the the full version of these achingly short clips.

Jul 27, 2010

Andrew says:

Great to see this released, can't wait to get the dvd....

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