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## NEWS

- Tom Waits Revisits Back Catalogue with Vinyl Reissues
- Granddaddy Albums Get Vinyl Reissues Just in Time for Christmas
- Antipop Consortium's Beans Ropes in Four Tet, Tobacco, Tunde Adebimpe for New Anticon Album
- Blind Guardian Bring the Edge of Time to North America on Fall Tour
- Cloud Nothings Lines Up Debut LP

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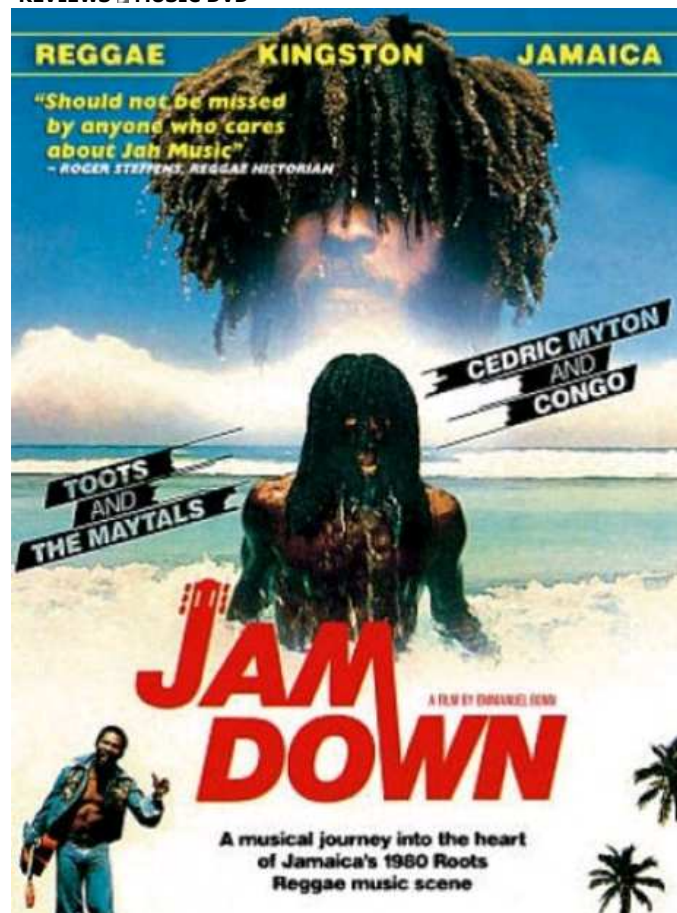
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## RECENTLY REVIEWED

- IMPROV & AVANT-GARDE: **Barn Owl** - Ancestral Star
- DANCE & ELECTRONIC: **Brian Eno** - Small Craft On A Milk Sea
- DANCE & ELECTRONIC: **Modeselektor** / Various

## Jam Down Directed by Emmanuel Bonn

REVIEWS » MUSIC DVD



By Brent Hagerman

*Jam Down*, which was shot in 1980, but only released in France, bills itself as "a musical journey into the heart of Jamaica's 1980 roots reggae music scene." It features Toots and the Maytals and Cedric Myton and the Congos. It should be viewed in context with two other reggae films made around this time, both by non-Jamaicans: *Land of Look Behind* and *Rockers*. Each tries to visually describe the desolation of the ghetto from which reggae emerged while providing an intimate showcase of the reggae movement. They're marked by low-tech, amateurish filmmaking and meandering scope, but are sustained by a passionate love of Jamaican reggae and rare musical footage. These films are all tremendously loved and appreciated by hardcore '70s reggae fans, but offer little of value to anyone else. *Jamdown's* best moments are live footage of the musicians in concert, in studio and in candid performances. Toots playing acoustic in the backseat of a car while running through a few of his hits, demonstrating different styles of reggae guitar, is priceless footage even though the sound quality is often poor. The Congos laying down "Food for the Rainy Days" in the studio or "Row Fisherman Row" on a deserted beach are boons for fans. However, these scenes are tied together with a poorly edited clutch of drive-by shots from cars and trains, bauxite mining, snippets of rural life, interviews with citizens on the street that add little to the film, seemingly pointless clips of barrooms as far away as Soweto and lots and lots of nothing in particular. *Jamdown* could stand a militant edit: chop it down to half-an-hour of the musical highlights and upload it to YouTube. (MVD Visual)

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## MUSIC DVD HIGHLIGHTS



**Classic Albums:**  
**Rush**  
**2112/Moving Pictures**



**Dio** - Holy Diver Live [Blu-Ray]

## FULL MUSIC DVD LIST



## PICKS



**Swans' Michael Gira** - An Uncompromising Career



**Busted! Lime Wire Shut Down by U.S. Court**



**Danzig Doesn't Care About Kitty Litter Photos**

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SPARK: **Sound Off**

- Modeselektion Vol. 01
- DANCE & ELECTRONIC: **Salem** - King Night
- POP & ROCK: **Politique** - Secret Shock

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### CONTESTS

- **The Stanfields Contest**
- **Big John Bates vs. White Cowbell Oklahoma**
- **Winterizer Tour Contest**
- **Hollorado Contest**
- **Alexisonfire Dog's Blood Contest**
- **Rock Party Anthems Playstation 3 Contest**
- **Juno Decades Contest**
- **Expendables Contest**
- **Black Mountain Wilderness Heart**



Posted by [Nameless Poseur](#) On 2010-11-02 12:52:30  
 i personally loved this film, despite the lack of storyline i found that the music performances and rare glimpse into 1980's downtown kingston more than made up for this. It was the historical importance of the congos footage which was what drew me to the film to begin with knowing that the film apparently contains some of the only known footage of the congos from this period and with the congos being a favourite of mine i could not resist this dvd and was money well spent.



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VIDEOGAMES:  
**D.O.M. (Death of Multiplayer)**



TIMELINE: **Michael Gira** - From Uncompromising Swans to Ethereal Angels of Light

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