

cult figure, is in full view here. Full view as in sometimes almost - and other times fully - nude while performing his brand of punk. Trashing venue tables, chairs and other things around him and audience members too! Not to mention hanging from ceilings, injuring himself and defecating on stage. His acts are enough to make the audience and people hanging around protect themselves or back off from the man and the stage. These shows are transferred from VHS recordings but the quality is not necessarily very poor, however the rest of the band and music are clearly and certainly secondary here. GG Allin dying as a result of an overdose in 1993 is surely one of the least surprising events to ever occur, one can not envisage much different while reading about him or watching Blood, Shit, And Fears. Also little surprise that a tattoo on his arm reads simply that life sucks. Near two hours and 37 songs in total this is not for the faint of heart...but not for the reasons you might be thinking. - Anna Tergel

### **DOLLA MORTE (DVD) - MVD VISUAL**

This is a re-release from an original 2006 production. An extended disclaimer, somewhat funny and somewhat lame, featuring a King Diamond doll greets the viewer. Dolla Morte does to dolls what would be shocking to do to humans or real live actors. That's what Bill Zebub, the moviemaker, wants to make sure the viewer understands any way. Dolla Morte is basically a bunch of dolls abused and mutilated. Dolla Morte begins with a search party looking for someone and finding a raped female, several beheaded and bloodied ones and then a bunch impaled with sticks. All dolls one must remember. The next scenes feature George W. Bush reacting to a plane hitting a building by wanting to attack the Ottoman Empire and praying to Jesus, a suicide bomber blowing up a train and a bearded doll railing against Christians. Up next a bunch of naked women, errrr dolls, are seen crucified and then molested. Bush is back again wanting a return to witch burnings to uphold values. The Pope and Christ dolls make appearances and do unholy things naturally. We also see Hitler on board the SS Enterprise in space planning some sort of return and attack. It goes on and on, Dolla Morte is a mix of American style machoism, offensive acts and political commentary. The viewer might hope the patriotic in the plot is satire but is anybody really sure? All in all this is 70 minutes of what could loosely be termed a movie. And yes there is a soundtrack here too, not all metal, and therefore a disappointing one. - Anna Tergel

### **THE ELECTRIC CHAIR (DVD) - MVD VISUAL**

The Electric Chair was originally available in 1985 (or is it 1986?) but was never widely released. It stars the late Victor Argo who had roles in such movies as Taxi Driver. This black and white feature is certainly an odd one and is about a stand up comedian who seems lost in life. He goes to a gig at a bar, which seems busy. When he enters a singer is on stage but is not getting much attention. The movie flashes back and forth to scenes of a desolate neighborhood with a first person point of view and no one else around. He is introduced by the bar owner to minimum applause and starts his set with a song but hums some of the lyrics. One liner jokes are up next. The few seated audience offer little reaction and the comic's material turns to sarcasm and bitterness. After a while an electric chair appears on stage, while he is wondering out loud what the chair is doing there a person seated beside the stage asks him not to go near it. In the meanwhile the set continues with a dance and is then back to jokes again. One table's occupants keep having ice cream, a Rabbi occasionally plays the saxophone, the electric chair warning is said again, a couple start kissing and having sex and another patron starts reading. Finally the comic proceeds to sit in the chair but gets up and tells more jokes before sitting on it again. The repeated electric chair warnings lead to some anger before more scenes from the aforementioned desolate place with some dialogue about life and love. Just as The Electric Chair ends the comic does seem to actually die in the electric chair.

It is anybody's guess what The Electric Chair is really about, it is certainly one about the meaninglessness of life but probably something more in the mind of its writer (director and producer) Mark Eisenstein. The extras, which include a commentary, provide (only) some of the answers but are full of New York and film school anecdotes. Among the secrets revealed is that Harvey Keitel was close to being cast for the role of the comic. - Anna Tergel

### **GUITAR TONE: PURSUING THE ULTIMATE GUITAR SOUND by MITCH GALLAGHER - CENGAGE LEARNING**

This reference and technical book attempts to teach and provide tools for the guitar player. It tries to give a feel as to what a great tone should be and how best to achieve it without downright telling the guitar player what to do precisely. It goes through gear options and distinguishes fact and myth. The first part is about tools, starting with solid and hollow body and neck construction. It then explores wood and material used to build the guitar and devotes some pages to frets and pickups while delving deeper into different construction techniques. Electronics are next with some words on volume and tone control, switches and more. By the time chapter six arrives it is time for amplifiers, vacuum tubes and speakers. Their enclosures and cabinets are discussed and then a few volume myths and facts are attended to. A lot of pages on effects are followed by a section on software. Most of the fun for the non-technical reader is left to the latter pages with sections on iconic guitars such as Les Paul, Gibson, the Flying V and others and iconic amplifiers such as Fender, Marshall and others. The second part of the book profiles famous guitarists and their tools. These include Jeff Beck, Larry Carlton, Eric