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Shonen Knife - Live At Mohawk Place 2009
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Japanese indie rock goddesses and icons Shonen Knife are giving the world a hard copy of their great live show.

Here's some info for you fact fans. Shonen Knife have been on the block since 1981, their name transliterates to Shōnen Naifu, which means "Boy Knife". Despite the boyish name, they are an all-girl three piece, who formed in in Osaka, Japan. Although you probably knew all that. Musically, they sit somewhere between the punk ethos of the Ramones, 1960s girl groups and, well, pop music. This DVD is from Shonen Knife's tour to support their 14th album 'Super Group', during which they played a tremendous thirty cities in thirty days.



Have you seen Shonen Knife - Live At Mohawk Place 2009

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The live performance on the DVD itself is from the band's show -- the last one of their Super Group tour - at Mohawk place in Buffalo, New York. And blimey, what a night it must've been; three Japanese girls (well, women), half a world away from home, playing their thirtieth gig in thirty five days. I had never really acquainted myself with Shonen Knife prior to watching this DVD and it made me kick myself. What have I been missing? Well, to answer my own question; neon clad, guitar wielding mentalists, apparently. And I mean that in the most endearing way possible.

The energy and delivery the band offer is sublime -- it was exciting to watch, and live music DVDs are often entertaining but not exciting. There's something about watching three Japanese women in bright colours rock out whilst mixing the ethos and sound of indie rock with the bubble gum factor of J-pop. And to deliver it with a good measure of charm and, well, fun. Genius.

Watching this DVD, it's pretty easy to see why Kurt Cobain said "When I finally got to see them live, I was transformed into a hysterical nine-year-old girl at a Beatles concert." If they were good enough for Kurt, they're good enough for me.

www.shonenknife.com

www.myspace.com/shonenknife

[Sara Curtis](#)

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