

## CD Review: The Vibrators - Greatest Punk Hits

---



MVD



John Moore  
Philadelphia Punk Music Examiner

September 25, 2013

Given the influence and longevity of the British punk band The Vibrators, it's a bit surprising that up to this point no one had bothered to release a career retrospective of their 16 biggest hits. And yes, "greatest hits" is a subjective term when we're talking punk bands that rarely generate mass appeal, regardless, the 16 tracks that make up Greatest Punk Hits, gives a good take on the band's evolution over the decades.

While The Vibrators never became as well-known globally as the short-lived Sex Pistols or Iggy pop, musicians The Vibrators toured with early on in their career, they have managed to keep the band going (though with a slew of lineup changes), for the next four decades.

With songs like "Sweet Sweet Heart," "Troops of Tomorrow" and "Judy Says (Knock You in the Head)" the band managed to have an accessible sound, that still showcased the rawness that was the hallmark of original British punk rock. Some of these tracks sound dated, both lyrically and musically ("Disco in Mosco"), but others manage to hold up remarkably well ("Flying Home").

---

It's important to note that while the album includes singles that go all the way back to the band's 1977 debut, Pure Mania, many of those earlier songs that show up on this collection were actually taken from a 1991 session where the band re-recorded a lot of those songs.

### **The Vibrators**

#### **Greatest Punk Hits**

**(MVD Audio/O-Rama)**