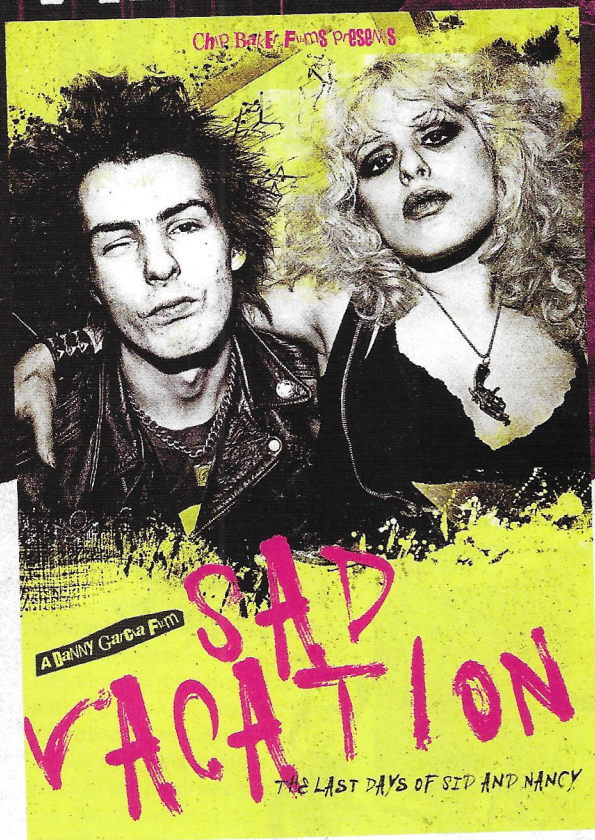


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RICHARD MANN

RECOMMENDED VIEWING:



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film adds the element of a mystery, presenting contrasting theories regarding Spungen's murder. Friends and peers paint Sid and Nancy's personalities for the audience, and the documentary delves into the environments and families which created these perfect tragedies and led them to find each other. But, again, all this is fodder for *Sad Vacation's* main question: did or could Sid kill Nancy? The question lingers.

While some say "no way," a barrage of theories—murder-suicide unfulfilled, alternate killers, drug deals, Sid by mistake—surge. *Sad Vacation* walks its audience through a tragic and desperate tale and examines the attitudes about and forensics of Spungen's murder. It is thorough and unapologetic. Garcia's research and interviews do much to illuminate one of rock 'n' roll's great mysteries. ●●●●

Director Danny Garcia's "Sad Vacation" is a 2016 documentary about the last days of Sid and Nancy. Just in case those names are not as immediately recognizable as George Washington and Santa Claus, Sid is Sid Vicious of the Sex Pistols and Nancy is Nancy Spungen, his girlfriend and manager. *Sad Vacation* is a visceral compilation of interviews showcasing people intimately involved with the forsaken couple. The commentators—cultivated from the vivid scenes of 1978 London and New York

City—include punk legends from The Heartbreakers, The Boys, The Adverts, The Dictators, and others, all of whom guide viewers through the murky quagmire of the pair's heroin-soaked final days, which concluded with Spungen's murder and Vicious' overdose at the ages of 20 and 21, respectively.

Sad Vacation is ripe with outstanding footage. The intoxicating behind-the-scenes photographs, balanced with new interviews, plunge into the moments of these two doomed rockers. The

