

GODSEND ONLINE : latest reviews 07.07

New Model Army - "Live 161203" DVD - Emerging from the rich post-punk scene in England amidst the Thatcher administration, NMA have seen some turbulent times come and go, but they're still persevering, as evidenced by this document of a rare gig from 2003. Lead singer/guitarist Justin Sullivan's road-weary, working-class delivery is bold and impassioned, and the band conjures a fine mix of moody, often-heavy rock and folksy sounds behind him. The 'What A Wonderful Way To Go' is strong and beautiful, while 80s standby '51st State' is still fiery - and more than relevant today. 'No Rest' is another amped-up highlight, as is the climactic and hopeful closer, 'I Love The World'. Lyrically, Sullivan is still concerned with Imperialism and its' effect on the world's balance, and this stance has landed him in hot water with the US government (denying NMA's touring visas in years past). Undoubtedly, this has hurt the group's following in the US, but New Model Army's music has nonetheless withstood the test of time, and this fine show, coupled with an informative and insightful interview with Sullivan himself (as a bonus feature) is more than worth a closer look. (Secret Films via MVD)

<http://prongs.org/godsend/latest.html>