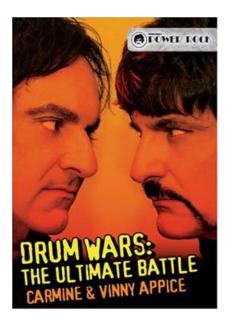


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Carmine and Vinny Appice – Drum Wars: The Ultimate Battle DVD



By Gary Hill

The premise is interesting. Two brothers, both legends of the rock world (think Vanilla Fudge, Black Sabbath and more), both drummers, put together a show down to see which of them is the ultimate drummer. Let's just say one thing right out front - both of these guys are incredible and I know you've heard their work on lots and lots of music, even if you might not know the names off hand. So, what about the DVD? Well, the "drum war" itself is the heart of this beats beast, but the set up should be discussed. There is a whole lead up to this showdown of skins and sticks and herein lies one of the problems with the film. Frankly, it feels way too much like an extra cheesy version of the WWF – how's that for overkill? This lead up is contrived, strained and silly. Still, the real reason we're here is the music itself. You can't really go wrong with either one of these guys in terms of drumming. The band that joins them is top-notch, too. The only thing I would say is that if you are a drummer or big fan of drumming, this will really be up your alley. If you are like me and find a lot of drum solos to be rather boring, you'll probably hit the "forward" button from time to time. As good as these guys are, it's still drums, and that can leave me a little non-plused from time to time. The truth of the matter is, though, this is a great contest. So, you want to know who won? Well, I'm not going to deliver that spoiler. You'll need to pick it up for the decision. OK, maybe I will break the news. The truth is, if you are a fan of killer rock drumming, then you are the winner.



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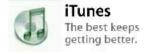
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