



DVD: Earache Records: iCrusher Complete

Our Take

Back in 2001 and 2002 Earache Records released two DVD samplers, known as iCrusher. Now in 2008, the label has decided to re-release both samplers on a double sided DVD with some audio extras and other bonus features (I'm assuming the originals are out of print but have not confirmed this). However, as Earache has basically just put these two samplers together on one disc without putting any extra pizzazz into it, it isn't necessarily a worthy purchase if you are looking for something with substance.

Though the videos themselves are a decent watch for fans of the bands on iCrusher Complete, as with the DVD sampler collection from Regain Records the presentation of this DVD leaves a little to be desired. First, when each video plays there is no text to tell you which band is which, though obviously viewers should be able to recognize some of them quite easily. Sure you could just look at the back of the box, but seeing as there are some minor errors on the packaging (the first compilation appears to have a video listed that isn't on the actual release and they also managed to misspell Mortii despite the fact that his name is listed earlier on). I'm also not a fan of how the disc itself has no labeling of any kind, meaning if you misplace it out of its case with a bunch of other releases good luck figuring out which one it is. Criticisms like these might seem minor, and to some people they will be, but some will take it to mean that there was a lack of effort on the part of who put this together.

But then again, this DVD is fairly inexpensive so perhaps I'm expecting a little too much. \$15 does get you 22 videos and 11 bonus audio tracks in addition to three bonus features. Though newcomers will find that Earache's lineup at the time had a little less death metal than they might be looking for, there's no denying that there is a surprising amount of diversity to be found on this release. And if you don't mind paying for an extended sampler with a bare bones presentation and a few tacked on extra features, go ahead and give iCrusher Complete a go, but otherwise I'd wait for something better to come along.

<http://www.mvdvisual.com>

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