

Punkusraucous Rex

Cathode rehab

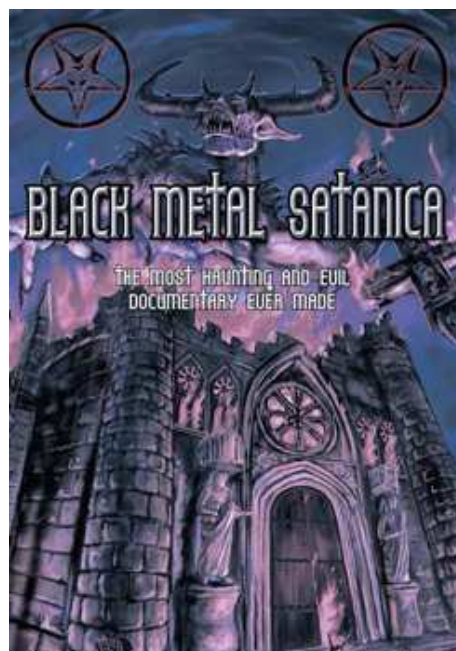
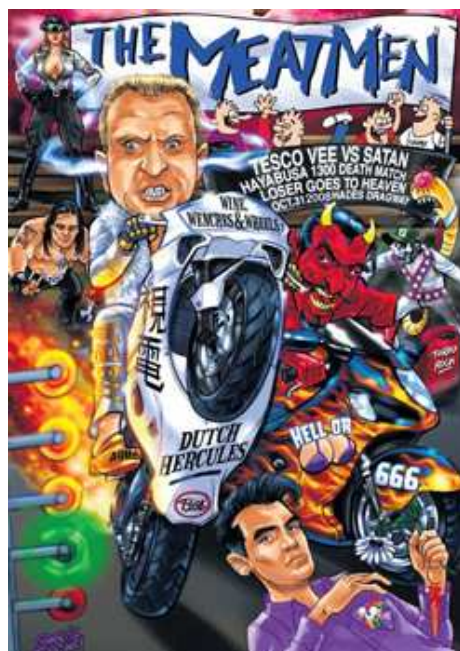
by JOHNSON CUMMINS



Although it's been a week and change since Pop Montreal finally breathed its final sigh for the year, I remain in seclusion from exhaustion—I still need some quality couch time to recharge my batteries. If you're also still in need of some time in front of the tube before getting back out there, there are some new amazing DVDs that are guaranteed to get you moving again, so pass the popcorn and peep these...

***The Meatmen: The Devil's in the Details* (Meat King Records/MVD):**

Tesco Vee and his merry band of Meatmen have always been the thorn in the side of P.C. punk, and this three-hour rock 'n' roll juggernaut does nothing to disappoint. This covers 30 years of the Meatmen's ride, featuring rough live footage from their meagre beginnings in 1979 (!), the early-'80s *We're the Meatmen and You Suck* period (!!), their more well-known rock period (featuring Minor Threat's Lyle Pressler and Negative Approach's Graham McCulloch) towards the end of the '80s, and barely a nod to the '90s and their (gulp) recent era. In other words, Vee's no chump on what we want to see.



The Last Pogo (The Last Pogo/Sonic Unyon): Finally seeing the light of day this week, three decades after its initial completion in 1979, is this short film by director Colin Brunton. The film documents the Last Pogo festival that happened on Dec. 1, 1978 at Toronto's famed Horseshoe. Although a little light

on the goods, there are great live performances by all the bands that played on the bill—the Cardboard Brains, the Secrets, the Mods, the Ugly, the Viletones (!) and, for my money, one of Canada’s best punk rock ‘n’ roll bands, Teenage Head. Things are indeed a little lean here, but the bonus footage of a cable TV performance by highly underrated Scenics proves quality will always win out over quantity.

Kraftwerk and the Electronic Revolution (Sexy Intellectual/MVD): It becomes apparent quite early on that the word “unauthorized” should be underlined on this documentary. That works out fine though as early electronic music innovators Kraftwerk may be on the marquee, but it’s the hotbed of electronic and progressive activity that was happening around and before them, in the ‘60s and ‘70s, that is really the story here. Kraftwerk’s roots are traced back to the dawn of krautrock, shedding some light on their contemporaries with amazing footage of bands like Cluster, Amon Duul II, Ash Ra Tempel, Tangerine Dream, musique concrète pioneer Karlheinz Stockhausen and more. Clocking in at three hours, not including bonus footage, this is a must for any fan of early electronic, krautrock and progressive music.

Black Metal Satanica (Cleopatra/MVD): When it’s concentrating on the roots of black metal, Norwegian church burnings, Bathory, Mayhem and many of today’s current crop of black metal shakers like Shining, Rimsfrost, Ondskapt, Svartahrid and Watain, this film is unbeatable. Unfortunately, things really get bogged down by extremely stuffy narration, with far too much film stock blown on the history of 11th-century Scandinavian Viking lore and Christian tyranny. This one would be for black metal fanatics and misanthropic pyromaniacs only.

TV PARTY TONIGHT...JONATHAN.CUMMINS@GMAIL.COM

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