

ROCK N ROLL EXPERIENCE - July / August 2009



Rating: 6 stars

There are 3 new dvd's in your stores now...all 3 documentaries were created by Wolfgang Buld & they cover the punk & reggae scenes from the late 70's. I'll start off with "Punk in London" which chronicles The Clash, X-Ray Spex, The Jam, The Lurkers, Boomtown Rats, The Adverts, Chelsea & Subway Sect...the highlight of this disc is the bonus footage which shows the complete set of footage that they filmed from The Clash's concert that was filmed exclusively for this documentary.. "Jenny Jones" is my personal favorite! There's an interview with Wolfgang where he chronicles what it was like to shoot this documentary & as a whole, the bands he focused on are covered very well, there's a lot of rare footage you probably won't see anywhere else other than here, seeing vintage TV Smith & The Adverts, Chelsea & a young Bob Geldof, it's interesting to see how far things have come since this documentary was made..it's interesting to point out that some of these bands passed as punk, but they were not, atleast by my standards, punk, other than the DIY attitude that they possessed. "Punk in England" is my favorite of these 3 releases...its got footage of The Clash, which is different from the previous dvd, there's footage of Ian Dury, who I've never heard of prior to this dvd, & to be honest with you, his style borrow from the 50's & I like it alot! Souxie & The Banshees are covered on here & seeing Souxie in her prime is entertaining, but my personal favorite of this disc is the bonus footage because there's a mini documentary called "Women in Rock" & there's some amazing footage of "Girl School" who, in all honesty, were more "metal" than punk! The only crime about this documentary is that none of the performer's names are listed so I don't know who some of the artists are, but there's a killer cover of "Ziggy Stardust" by David Bowie performed in this rockumentary! "Reggae Babylon" focuses on the Reggae scene & this dvd is the shortest of the 3 clocking in at 45 minutes, yet it's super tight, features cool interviews & performances from Matumbi, Steel Pulse & Jimmy Lindsay to name but just a few. The quality of the film is old, it's independent & I like how it's authentic to the topic...there's no sugar coating it, all 3 of these dvd's are made by the same guy, they focus on what was once underground music revolutions in society & culture & I definitely dig the rare glances into the past with these 3 dvd's!

