

D V D R E V I E W S

Fight - Into The Pit Metal God

So you missed Fight the first time around or you have completely worn out your tapes or CDs of the classic "War Of Words" and "A Small Deadly Space"? Now you have a reason to go out and replace them and then some. Rob Halford and his label Metal God Entertainment have remixed and remastered both of those stellar albums plus the "Mutations" EP and threw in a sick DVD as well. "War Of Words" was a classic from the word go. Brutal tracks like "Immortal Sin" and "Into The Pit" shaved off the heads of the listeners and "A Small Deadly Space" slowed the crunch down only to go heavier with stunning tracks like "Mouthpiece" and "Human Crate". The DVD enclosed features a great live show from Phoenix circa the release of "War Of Words" and also includes commercials, videos and interview footage as well as a documentary on the making of "War Of Words". The remasters sound incredible and make the package well worth owning.

Jeffrey Easton

SuidAkrA - 13 Years of Celtic Wartunes SPV/Wacken Records

Around since the early 1990s, SuidAkrA plays a blend of death/black metal with strong folk (Celtic) influences. A best-of compilation, "13 Years of Celtic Wartunes" comes with a CD featuring 17 tracks that cover most of the band's releases, as well as a DVD. The DVD consists of three sections, the first of which is a live performance by the band at Wacken Open Air. SuidAkrA plays relatively straightforward death/black metal, but things really come alive when the band taps into Celtic sounds, particularly when a bagpipe player comes out and sets down some ripping blasts complemented by Marcel Shoenen's guitar riffs. The second part of the DVD features the band playing an acoustic set in a German club. Although the audience is subdued, SuidAkrA sounds even better acoustically, playing both its own material and venturing into the likes of Pink Floyd's "Wish You Were Here" and "Johnny B." The third part of the CD consists of interviews (rather lame) and two videos (not bad). Overall, this is good stuff, which fans of SuidAkrA should grab immediately.

Octavio Ramos Jr.

Spock's Beard - Live SPV

Spock's Beard is the unsung heroes of Prog. To see them live is an experience, much like the way Dream Theater fans feel after they see their band in the live setting. The band is powerful live and this DVD catches them in their utmost live glory. This 19 track DVD ebbs and flows through a great set list that includes "Crack The Big Sky", "On A Perfect Day", "Skeletons At The Feast" and the "As Far As The Eye Can See". The camera work is beyond phenomenal and the sound mix is superb. I love what this band can do and why they are not as big as Dream Theater in America is beyond me. If you are in need of a fix that needs amazing musicians and a perfect live setting then "Live" from Spock's Beard is YOUR fix.

Jeffrey Easton

Iron Maiden And The New Wave Of British Heavy Metal Sexy Intellectual/MVD

How many times can you tell the story of Iron Maiden and the NWOBHM? I guess with these guys over and over again. First off, these old guys from the good old days of Britain's entry into metal look tired and come off so boring. Also, the sound is bad on this DVD. I have a new DVD player that is insanely great and this DVD sounded like shit. If I watch a DVD like this I want to know about Gaskin or some of the lesser known bands, not Girlschool or Maiden again. If you want to watch something amusing and interesting on the NWOBHM go buy the 15 minute Samson DVD that came out last year. That is funny and worth the money more so than this.

Jeffrey Easton

CANNIBAL CORPSE - Centuries Of Torment: The First 20 years Metal Blade

These blood and guts mongers known to many of us as Cannibal Corpse have released their most comprehensive DVD documenting the quintet's first 20 years of blood drenched horror. This three DVD set features everything from the band's humble beginnings and how they came together to form Cannibal Corpse in the late eighties. The three hours of the band's history is told by the present members of the band as well as former members Chris Barnes and Jack Owen. There are snippets of other fellow death metal and heavy metal musicians giving their narrative on the band's ungodly horror image. There are also cool videos of "Decency Defiled" and "Death Walking Terror" among few others which make it into this bloody package. Everything from some of their best club and festival appearances is also featured here along with a bonus DVD which shows the band's life on the road to everything related to the band's 20 year career. Also, an interesting interview of artist Vince Locke on the band's artwork among the 7 hours of video here makes this DVD ultra sick. To more impaled corpses and cannibalized whores, here's to another 20 years, Cannibal Corpse.

Sarjoo Devani

