

Message for the Week

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Iron Maiden And The New Wave Of British Heavy Metal

Review by Joe Milliken

Iron Maiden is one of those bands that not only defines their genre, but literally created it. Emerging from the east side of London scene in the late 1970¹, Maiden's unique new blend of high energy metal was quickly dubbed by the masses as the New Wave Of British Heavy Metal (NWOBHM).

With the MVD Video release of Iron Maiden And The New Wave Of British Heavy Metal, the documentary studies not only Iron Maiden's trailblazing path, but also many of the bands that followed suit including Samson, Saxon, Praying Mantis, Diamond head and others.

We get a true, detailed investigation of not only the most relevant NWOBHM bands, but also a time line of the defining events, albums and players that helped shape a style of music that to this day, influences and instigates a generation of metal heads around the world.

Various band interviews include talks with Maiden's Paul DiAnno and Dennis Stratton, Brian Tatler of Diamond Head, Rob Weir of Tygers of Pan Tang and Praying Mantis¹ Tino and Chris Troy.

The documentary also reveals the insights of various rock journalists of the day including Classic Rock Magazine's Geoff Barton, Kerrang's Malcolm Dome, Sound's Geoff Barton and legendary Soundhouse Club DJ Joel McIver.

The real jewels of this release however are the various clips of rare live and instudio footage, as well as many photos taken from private collections. Other bonus features include an interactive NWOBHM challenge, extended interview footage and an interview with the current lineup of the female metal band Girlschool.

All in all Iron Maiden And The new wave Of British heavy metal is a must for true fans of the genre, as well as those who are interested in learning more about this vastly underrated and influential period of the heavy metal family tree.