

Big Audio Dynamite II: Live E=MC2 (Cherry Red DVD, 50 min.)

When Mick Jones and Joe Strummer of The Clash fell out over artistic differences in 1982, guitarist Jones found after-Clash success with Big Audio Dynamite. This second lineup of the band, caught live at London's Town and Country Club in 1990, includes Jones and Nick Hawkins on guitars, Gray Stoneedge on bass and Chris Kavanagh on drums. What set B.A.D. apart was Jones' willingness to experiment; the debut album combined rock, reggae, hip-hop, beatbox rhythms and speech/TV/film samples. Jones is not the strongest vocalist and he seems particularly weak early on, but the music often is an intoxicating mix, especially on "Medicine Show" and the encore of "The Bottom Line," with strong guitar work. Also exuberant and danceable is "Rush" (the "situation nowhere" song). From the first B.A.D.'s output comes "Other 99" and the title track, while "The Globe" also provided the name of the then-current album (the only album recorded by this version of the band). The eight-song show concludes with a fine cover of Prince's "1999." Interestingly, the closing credits mention interview segments, but they are nowhere to be found on the disc, which is without bonus features. **Grade: B+**

- Tom Von Malder