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Nightlife Agenda

By [Fritz Hahn](#), [Rhome Anderson](#) and [David Malitz](#)

The best show in town this week happened 13 years ago in Boston. But you can re-live that experience for free on the [Black Cat](#)'s backstage with a screening of "[The Jesus Lizard - Live](#)," which captures all the chaos of the band's October 4, 1994, concert in Beantown. Seeing the Jesus Lizard live was many things: enthralling, sweaty, scary. The Chicago quartet fell into the "indie rock" category during its early-mid '90s existence, but when bands like the Shins and the Decemberists get that tag now, it just seems wrong to apply it to a band as ferocious as the Jesus Lizard. The Lizard played -- sometimes quite literally -- balls-out rock that was confrontational, pummeling, vicious. As far as frontmen who were Iggy Pop disciples go, David Yow was the best, stalking the stage -- and often leaping off it -- like a madman. The rest of the band worked up a pounding, low-end heavy storm that could give most industrial and metal bands a run for their money in terms of pure power. When David saw them at the 9:30 club back in 1996, he raced to the venue's upper level a few songs into their set because the floor was just too much of a danger zone, with bodies slamming into each other and various liquids -- beer, blood, spit -- flying left and right. Observing it from the balcony was much safer and made it easier to appreciate the insanity.