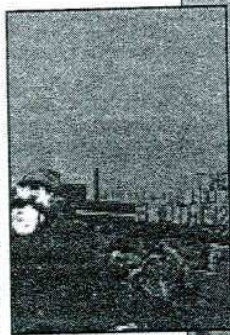


The Blood Brothers
"Jungle Rules Live"
 (ARTIST DIRECT)

Why is there a DVD for the Blood Brothers out? Probably because the band's put out more than a half dozen releases, and by now must have tons of raw footage, live show recordings and a bunch of weird crap to fill ten DVD's, right? Wrong. This is a label whore, pure and simple. In fact, this DVD feels more like a press kit than anything else. It has three audio songs, a few pictures for their discography, and a live band set. That maybe sounds like a lot, but it's not. What's fucked up is that I think I'm worthy of a Blood Brothers 'fan' tag, so I WANT there to be more. If you've never experienced Blood Brothers, they're loud, kinda erratic... look, just go find some music and stay away from this DVD, as it will be a disheartening purchase for all but the biggest of Blood Brothers fans. Blech.
www.thebloodbrothers.com



PR!

Don Van Vliet (Captain Beefheart)
"Some YoYo Stuff"
 (MVD)

This is Anton Corbijn's short (13 minutes) black-and-white film from 1993. It is a personal and revealing look at the former master of Dadaist rock. Through the cryptic answers and strange metaphors, the man sounds so broken and old-beyond-his-years that it can be difficult to take in, as if this were too personal and revealing to be enjoyed from a DVD. Still, it is one of the few windows (if even only a keyhole) allowed into the life of Don Van Vliet since his 1982 retirement from music. Don's mother introduces the film and filmmaker David Lynch makes a running appearance as the questioner. <http://www.musicvideodistributors.com>



Tom "Tearaway" Schulte

Jesus Christ Vampire Hunter
 (ODESSA FILM WORKS)

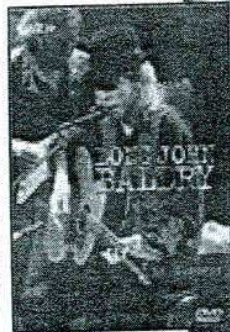
I like independent film. I've worked in two different video stores. I've spent a lifetime watching movies. I've seen thousands and thousands of films from classics like "Sunset Blvd." and "The Wind" to b-grade flicks ala "The Green Slime" or "The Stuff". I enjoy B Movies. The first Tuesday of every month is when my friends and I have B Movie night in which we rent four Cheap-o flicks, whip up a batch of dip, pick up some chips and douse our brains in booze. I'm telling you this to let you know I have something of a background with b-movies. Just this past Tuesday I viewed "Kung-fu Vampire Fighters", "The Fearless Vampire Killers" and "Caged Virgins". Last night I watched "Modern Vampires", "Fright Night", "Salem's Lot" and "Innocent Blood". It's not like I spend all my time watching movies about vampires, but I think it's important for you to know that I do know a thing or two about vampire films. With that said, "Jesus Christ Vampire Hunter" is one long cheap joke culled from dozens of Comedy Central stand up comedians' jokes about Jesus Christ. Combine the sorry sense of humor with bargain bin fight choreography and an embarrassing musical number and you have a movie destined to be a cult classic for the mental reprobates that can't get enough of The Rocky Horror Picture Show. If you like the quote on the cover of the DVD, "The power of Christ impales you!!!" then you'll be giggling like a schoolgirl for the 85 minutes course of the film. Mind you, she's a special ed. schoolgirl and you probably are too.



DICK

Long John Baldry
"Live in Concert"
 (INAKUSTIK)

This 1993 German concert from the tall bluesman with the deep voice comes in between the two Stony Plain albums, "It Still Ain't Easy" (1991) and "On Stage Tonight: Baldry's Our" (1993). It makes a nice companion to these two CDs, because of the similar arrangements and some of the same material, like "Shake that Thing", "Everyday I Have the Blues", "Insane Asylum" and "Do You Wanna Dance?". The powerful rendition of Dixon's "Insane Asylum" is the first song in the set featuring Kathi McDonald. She really belts out this song with feeling and power, recalling how her long collaboration with Baldry has made her integral to some of his best material. She shows her softer side on "I'd Rather Go Blind". Baldry and McDonald duet excellently on "A Thrill's A Thrill" and the folk-blues styled "Black Girl".
www.in-akustik.com



Tom "Tearaway" Schulte

Wesley Willis
"The Daddy of Rock 'n' Roll"
 (MVD)

This video documentary could be titled "A Day in the Life of Wesley Willis". We follow Willis around on his various duties as he consigns CDs, records songs (at an optimum 2:50 length), tests the patience of Kinko's staff and patrons, hangs out with his friends/support network and rocks the crowd from the stage. Willis' eccentricity and scatological/cartoon/commercial-influenced hard rock shouted shorts are legendary. Plenty of this music is in the DVD along with the entertaining look at what Willis does with his time and thus how he functions. Very energetic, Willis seems to talk continuously through the flick and often waxes autobiographical, as explaining the genesis of his own mental condition seems to be a favorite topic. His frequent use of profanity on mass transit and in public places gets him into a lot less trouble than one might think but it becomes part of the show in the fiasco that is non-stop on this entertaining glimpse into someone that needs to rock, for his own well-being. Special features include an interview with Steve Albini (one of Willis' many song subjects) along with deleted scenes, an animated short and more. <http://www.musicvideodistributors.com>



Tom "Tearaway" Schulte

Slaughter & The Dogs
"Cranked up Really High"
 (CHERRY RED FILMS)

Slaughter & The Dogs began releasing punk rock records in the late '70s. This puts the group in the very first wave of the genre and indeed it started by supporting The Sex Pistols. However, the name Slaughter & The Dogs does not often come up when thinking of the architects of the genre, like The Sex Pistols, The Damned, etc. Beside the fact the group had only one internationally released LP (Bite Back, 1980), Slaughter & The Dogs espoused a heavier, angrier sound that had more to do with the birth of Oi than the more accessible, even pop-influenced punk strain that achieved predominance. This DVD is the group in performance at the 1996 Holidays in the Sun festival in Blackpool, England and includes interviews.
www.cherryred.co.uk



Tom "Tearaway" Schulte

KMFDM DVD
"Sturm & Drang Tour 2002"
 (METROPOLIS RECORDS)

Finally a DVD documenting one of the coolest live shows out there! If you've ever seen this band live you can relate to the assault of music and technical awe that is KMFDM. Featuring members of PIG and now solo musician Lucia, this DVD features 14 of KMFDM's songs spanning the almost 20yr career. If you've ever seen the Nine Inch Nails live DVD that came out some time ago, this would be the anti-DVD to get. Very raw footage with washed out colors and less than perfect sound editing make this about as true to life as you can get without being there. The footage is well shot though, with excerpts from the band's on tour life inbetween each song, adding a sometimes humorous element to the show. All in all, another eye in the boot for KMFDM.
www.metropolis-records.com



Sean Dietrich

Demented Are Go
"Sick! Sick! Sick!/Call of the Wired"
 (CHERRY RED FILMS)

At the very forefront of the psychobilly movement, Demented Are Go began releasing records in the mid-'80s. Thanks to the (hopefully) typified dementia by Mark "Sparky" Phillips, the lead vocalist of this slap bass-based quartet, this may be the most demented of the genre. (Phillips is notoriously difficult to work with and thus the only constant member to the group.) Apparently, the crazy on-stage members' wild off-stage behavior matches their crazy on-stage personae and after watching these two concerts, you may want to scour the Internet where it is easy to find the morbid tales. The two concerts here, each previously released, were recorded in 1987 and 1994. This DVD brings them together onto one recording. As such, this is a vivid document of this unique blend of Gothic rockabilly punk.
www.cherryred.co.uk



Tom "Tearaway" Schulte

DVD REVIEWS