

DVD REVIEWS

IRON MAIDEN - Live After Death

UME

Finally, after years of fans begging for this monumental piece of metal history, we have it on DVD. This Long Beach Arena show that brought a major American Maiden tour to the masses via live record and home video stands even taller in the digital medium. The show was beyond amazing and for anyone that has ever witnessed Maiden at the Long Beach Arena you know it is an amazing show as the arena was seemingly made for them. Not only do you get the original 13-track live show that featured "Powerslave", "Sanctuary" and "Acas High" amongst others you also get a bonus DVD full of rarities. The second DVD features Behind The Iron Curtain, a feature on their shows in the Cold War era Russia, The 1985 Rock In Rio as well as History Of Iron Maiden part 2. If you have worn out your video and Laser Discs, it is time to upgrade. Jeffrey Easton



KREATOR - At The Pulse of Kapitulaton

SPV

Not long after the wall came down in Germany, thrash legends Kreator top-lined a festival in front of 7,000 rabid East German fans. This historical event was released on VHS in 1991, but the long out of print title now has a makeover for this new DVD package. First off, the old VHS stereo soundtrack has been remixed by producer extraordinaire Andy Sneap (who also played at the same festival with Sabbath) into Dolby Digital and now sounds absolutely stellar. The previously muted colors on the videotape have been re-mastered and the picture is now surprisingly crisp for a concert shot on videotape nearly twenty years ago. There are some new video effects, such as jump cuts, color changes and frame slippages, all of which were annoying and totally needless. However, even with that slight negative, this is a truly excellent package. Besides the historical 80 minute concert, there is a well done 17 minute documentary and the 40 minute director's cut of "Hallucinative Comas". While this is billed as a horror movie, it's basically just short vignettes in between Kreator music videos, but there is some giallo inspired gore for horror fans. Best of all, the entire concert is included as a separate live CD which genuinely captures the band at the pinnacle of their career. A must have. Christopher Alb



AXEL RUDI PELL - Live Over Europe

SPV

Disc one is an excellent 75 minute show captured live at Germany's Rock Hard Festival. The audio is true 5.1 Dolby Digital EX and sounds full and rich. After a purposely "scratched" intro, the picture becomes clear and is fine throughout. The only negative is that during the taping they used an abundance of blue stage lighting, which tends to obscure the band members. Disc two contains over two hours of bonus bootleg footage of the former Steeler guitarist shot at various European summer festivals throughout Europe from 2004 to 2006. Quality varies from show to show, but that is to be expected. All in all, it's over three hours of the German guitar virtuoso playing his brand of melodic hard rock throughout Europe. One thing is certain while watching it, from the American singer, to the riffs, the music, his stage presence to the cream Stratocaster, ARP owes an awful lot to Ritchie Blackmore. This makes for a great DVD package for ARP followers, or even just Rainbow fans looking for something new. Christopher Alb



PALLAS - Moment To Moment

MVD

Recorded in Poland, Scotland's Pallas put on a remarkable show of sounds, lights, plenty of intense drama and enough synthesizer and vocal melodies to fill the Atlantic Ocean. "Moment To Moment" showcases the band's classics and fan favorites from their music career spanning 25 years. Some of the favorites making the evening's set list include: "Cut And Run", "Heart Attack", "Midas Touch" and closer "Arrive Alive" from the 12 cuts featured here. Singer Alan Reed definitely gives Pallas a strong edge live as he is a very strong frontman. Everything, from his soft, melodic singing to his movement to the music, makes him the perfect showman. The whole band is in perfect form and will surely rock your world from beginning to end. There are also some bonus snippets of the band rehearsing for one of their Euro tours plus amateur video of life on a tour bus while on the road. I must admit, this is certainly one of the best DVDs of 2008 and you should check it out and see why I am so crazy about it.

Sarjoo Devani



PROFANATICA - The Enemy Of Virtue

Deathgasm

New York's now reactivated black metal terrorists Profanatica definitely have some sick and twisted live performances to their credit as can be witnessed on "The Enemy Of Virtue". The videos on this two DVD set date back to 1991/92. To me, watching them live back then must of been like witnessing your own demise by a psychotically enraged individual. Most of the songs featured here are from their demos, 7 inch split EP's and songs which made it onto their debut full length album. My only complaint here is the quality of the videos this DVD was produced from, not that it's not viewable, because it is. Coming across lines on your TV screen or sound mishaps take away from the hellish insanity this evil horde procreates with their disturbing live performances and emotionally nerve wrecking black metal music. The added bonus of a somewhat lengthy interview with the band is pretty informative as they talk about their formation and ideology they embrace. If you can get passed the video quality flaws, this is sure to satisfy your unholy desires. Also be on the lookout for their new very evil sounding studio release now out on Hells Headbangers Records. Sarjoo Devani

