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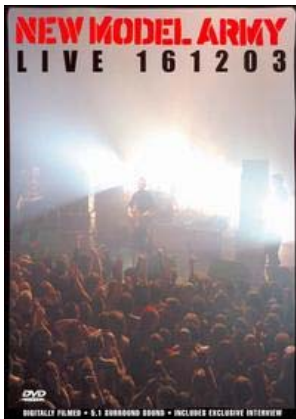
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Live 161203

New Model Army

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Review

by Joe Viglione

Live 161203 from the political rock & roll band New Model Army is less punk and more of a revolutionary charge. The playing is electric and the filming is flawless, director **Dave Meehan** bringing his formula back to the Astoria in London, this show taped on December 16, 2003. Not as dark as the **Echo & the Bunnymen** DVD, *Dancing Horses*, the lighting here corresponds with frontman **Justin Sullivan's** spitfire preaching, bringing the post-punk almost into the realm of rock & roll rap. The band is tight as a drum and the mostly male -- shirtless with many a skinhead -- audience packs the venue and is rocking, adding some energy to the group's performance. The 21 selections are dynamic, New Model Army blitzing far more than the aforementioned **Bunnymen**, though like that disc, the music will mostly be appreciated by NMA's audience and rock & rollers who enjoy a hot set of well-constructed music. Even when they let up somewhat, as on "Family Life," **Sullivan's** vocals are still, like **Ian McCulloch's**, not ready to take on the catalog of **Robert Goulet** -- or **Paul McCartney** for that matter. "It are what it are," and despite the monotone preaching of the frontman, what New Model Army do here is savage the music and the audience with a professional, determined, and very satisfying blast of power. For all the high energy, the band is quite musical and can throw a few punches from out of left field. There are lots of extras here: a 14-and-a-half-minute lo-fi soundcheck, a four-page biography (on the disc; there's no insert booklet) written by interviewer "Jet" **Martin Celmins**, and a 27-and-a-half-minute chat with **Justin Sullivan** -- it all adds up to a brilliant package that holds up under repeated viewings. Good job.

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Artist
[New Model Army](#)

Album
 Live 161203

Release Date
 Jun 26, 2007

Label
 MVD

Type
 Video, Live

Genre
 Rock

Styles
 Alternative Pop/
 Rock
 Post-Punk

Moods
 Tense/Anxious
 Hypnotic
 Bleak
 Clinical
 Detached

AMG Album ID
 R 1067860

Corrections to this Entry?

Tracks

	Title	Composer	Time
1	Orange Tree Roads [DVD]		
2	The Charge [DVD]		
3	Over the Wire [DVD]		
4	Aimless Desire [DVD]		
5	Wonderful Way to Go [DVD]		
6	Courage [DVD]		
7	No Pain [DVD]		
8	White Light [DVD]		
9	51st State [DVD]		
10	Here Comes the War [DVD]		
11	Family Life [DVD]		
12	Ocean Rising [DVD]		
13	Drag It Down [DVD]		
14	R&R [DVD]		
15	Purity [DVD]		
16	Poison Street [DVD]		
17	Get Me Out [DVD]		
18	Stupid Questions [DVD]		
19	No Rest [DVD]		
20	Green & Grey [DVD]		
21	I Love the World [multimedia track]		
22	Bonus Materials [*]		

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2004	CD	MVD Visual	4588
2005	DVD	Snapper	155597
2007	DVD	EMS	116387

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