

SEE YOU IN HELL

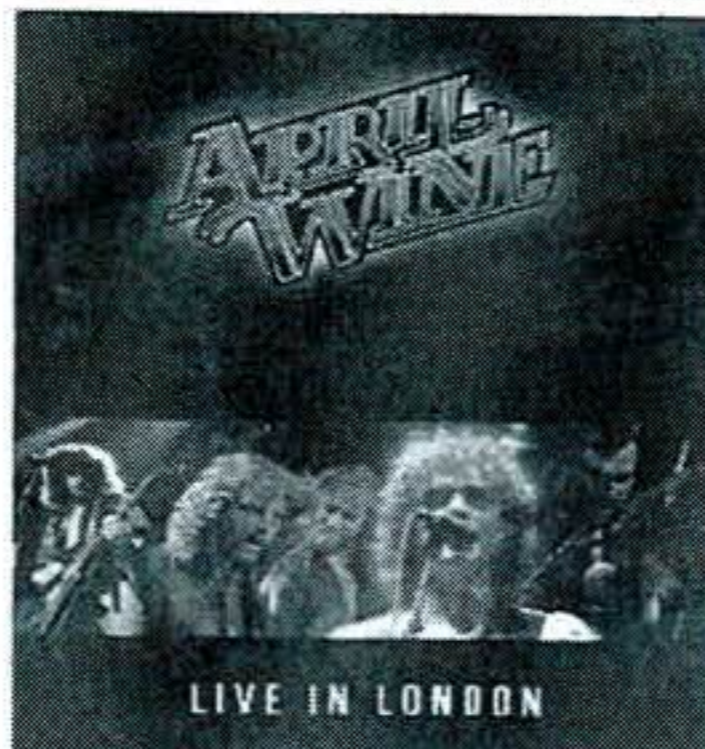
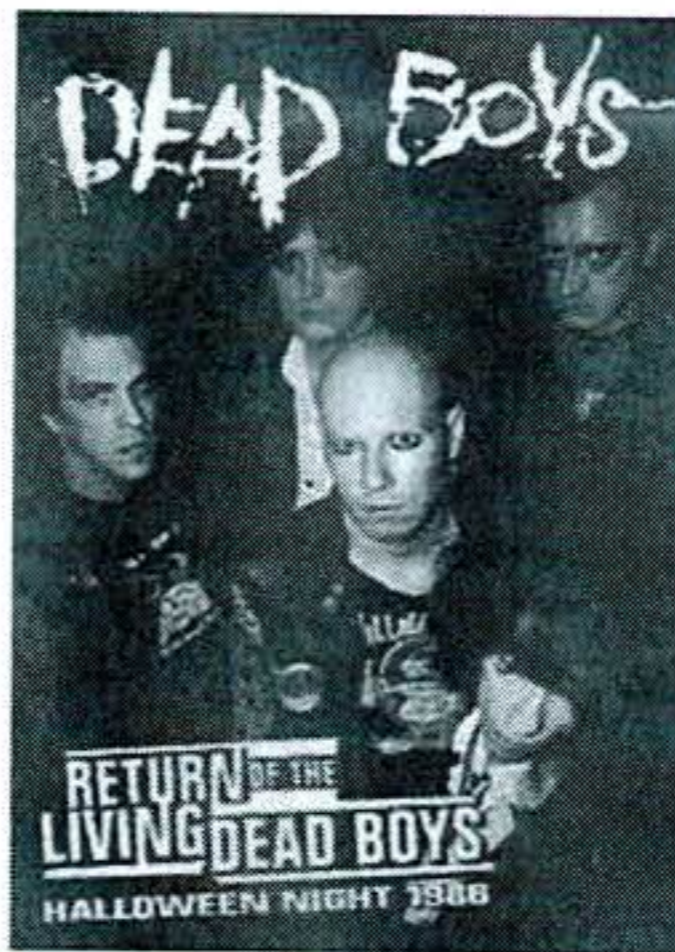
AURAL AMPHETAMINE

"METALLICA AND THE DAWN OF THRASH" (MVD) – A documentary centered around the formation, arrival & domination of Metallica (1st 3 albums), & the surrounding thrash scene of the early to mid 80's. Accompanied with live clip excerpts documenting Metallica, Slayer (& others) live & in old interviews, helping to narrate the story. Edited with chats with Brian Tatler (Diamond Head), Exlixi, Neurosis, Laaz Rockit, Chris Poland (Megadeth) & others. The impact of KILL EM ALL is talked about, as well as the general state of mind for thrashers at the time, which was an underdog mentality, since glam bands were getting all the praise while thrash bands forced musical growth onto the genre. This was a period where musical progression was greeted & loved by the underground & criminally ignored by mainstream media, which generated intense loyalty from fans. Live clips are mainly taken from Cliff Em All (for Metallica), as well as briefly touching on the NWOBHM at the beginning with some old school B&W Soundhouse footage with Neil Kaye.

ATTITUDE FOR DESTRUCTION (MVD) – A far-fetched 'movie' centered loosely around (G&R tribute band) Hollywood Roses, where a ludicrous, ridiculous plot unfolds as *Diamond Star records* offers the band a deal, if they fire their singer, which they promptly do, as well as kill the guy. However his jilted chick is a supposed Satanist (with no attention to ritualistic detail), with a 'ritual' having many white candles next to the altar, (which wouldn't happen in Satanism).

As the band readies for its first tour, a red-haired zombie appears for revenge. Besides 'Drake', the actors largely fit the Hollywood metal-head stereotype from say 1992. Makes Airheads look like fucking Scarface; a horrible waste of time & money. Not even good on a cheesy level. The only remotely acceptable element is some of the songs from the Dopesnake album (by Hollywood Rose), the pretentious Jack sipping & laughable 'partying' is among the worst portrayals of a rock band ever filmed.

The DEAD BOYS 'RETURN OF THE LIVING DEAD BOYS HALLOWEEN NIGHT 1986' (MVD) – Hailed as the missing link between the Dolls & the Ramones, The DB's reunited for this show, after a few years apart to maybe reflect on the influence they left on bands like Overkill (who covered their songs, & surely Bobby nicked the last name of drummer Johnny Blitz, not to mention his likeness to some of Stiv's stage moves & poses). After one Joey Ramone introduces the band, they rev-up "Sonic Reducer". Stiv appears at verse time with a cop hat & covered in pleather. His banter is equally funny & sarcastic. "All This & More" shows a glam influence, which manifested within the likes of GNR. As the 18-song set winds down things get crazy & un-predictable. Reckless versions of songs like "Ain't Nothing To Do" & "Detention Home" span their 2 albums, as well as a cover of The Stooges "Search & Destroy." A 1980 TV interview is tacked on as bonus material, starting with the video for "Sonic Reducer". Then Stiv & collaborator Frank Secich talk for about 5 minutes with a TV guy who seems to be a fan.



KISS LOVES YOU

(MVD) – A film by Jim Henneghan, better late than never, this documentary of KISS fans, started in 1994 & takes a look at the dedication of KISS fans from tribute bands, from other bands & from fans in general. Checking in for updates from some at the end. Including sections on tribute bands; Hotter Than Hell, Strutter & Dressed To Kill, as well as Dee Snyder & Dick Manitoba (who opened for KISS with The Dictators in 1977). An expose on the immense loyalty fans had in the 90's especially, as it was a time of the band getting little to no respect. Partially because of that the fans became more & more loyal. Resulting in the reunion tour in 1996 & for some the realization that their heroes weren't all they were cracked up to be. This humanizes the larger than life machine & nods to the immense work done by others to keep the KISS name alive. A must for those who were part of the 'underground' KISS phenomenon from the 80's & 90's.

APRIL WINE 'LIVE IN LONDON' (Cherry Red) – A one-time early MTV concert, filmed at London's Hammersmith Odeon in January, 1981 on their Nature Of The Beast tour (the marquee on the intro lists Diamond Head as the opener!). 27 years later, this 15-song set proves to capture the band in its most celebrated era. The culmination of 3 consecutive successful albums (First Glance, Harder Faster & Nature), each bigger than the preceding one, & those 3 albums comprise most of the set list here. From FM rock staples ("Roller", "I Like To Rock"), to the hits at the time ("Just Between You & Me", "Gypsy Queen") & some lesser-known riff rockers. The 3-guitar team trade licks, harmonize & split vocals (reminiscent of a poor man's BOC).

Surely one of the most underrated triple-guitar teams. They all had adequate lead skills & never stepped on each others toes. These were the days of memorable lines in solos, before speed became the emphasis. April Wine was one of the last from the pre Van Halen-school. Other highlights include the one-time FM staple "All Over Town" & "21st Century Schizoid Man").