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LOSINGTODAY REVIEWS



IGGY & THE STOOGES
 ESCAPED MANIACS DVD
 (MVD Visual)
 BY DAVID MANSDORF

Escaped Maniacs is the second live DVD to come out of the Stooges reunion, and, like the first one, it proves yet again that they haven't lost a step when it comes to delivering the goods in a live setting. Forget about last year's terrible reunion album *The Weirdness*; these days the only place for Iggy and the gang is on a stage. There aren't many singers, past or present, who can electrify a crowd quite like Iggy can, and nobody backs him up better than The Stooges, who are as tight a musical unit as you can possibly hope for. This DVD, taken from a 2005 Belgian concert, showcases a 15 song set with thankfully only 3 new numbers - so you get all of the first two Stooges albums with the exception of "LA Blues", "Ann" and "We Will Fall". For some strange reason they play *I Wanna Be Your Dog* twice in the set, which seems like a lapse in good judgment. It's not they don't have other songs that they can play.

Speaking of bad judgment, while the concert itself is well filmed and has crystal clear sound, the DVD package has a few notable gaffs. For example, you can choose from either the Original Version or the Director's Cut of the concert but there's no explanation of what the difference is. Different track-listing? Different camera angles? Who knows? Also, navigating the menus on the bonus disc is nearly impossible, as there is no cursor or any kind of indication as you toggle between options. The bonus interviews with the Asheton brothers give a good oral history of the band (although I could really do without hearing Scott Asheton say how much he likes *Fallout Boy*), but when speaking to Iggy the interviewer suddenly seems nervous, and the quality of questions takes a big dive. I'm happy to hear an hour-long interview with one of the most interesting figures in rock history, but dumb questions like "What's your favorite color?" are a waste of both his and my time. No wonder he starts asking how much time is left less than halfway through the hour-long discussion. Don't let the bonus feature's get in the way of the live show, which is totally worth your rock'n'roll dollar.

DAVID MANSDORF

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- CONTROL
- SONIC YOUTH
- M83
- MGMT
- JOAN AS POLICE WOMAN
- A HUMAN
- VARIOUS ARTISTS
- VARIOUS ARTISTS
- BUBBLE/GUM
- GLISSANDO
- HEAR, O ISRAEL
- PHILLIP SHAW
- VARIOUS ARTISTS
- EVEN
- DORP
- DEAD ELEPHANT
- MOHANSKI
- AVENGING FORCE
- ELIKA
- AUTODRONE
- THE BORDELLOS
- FIGHTING WITH WIRE
- FOR AGAINST
- BARRY ADAMSON
- TOKYO POLICE CLUB
- BLOOD RED SHOES
- TNS RECORDS
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- STEVE CHICK
- JUNKBOY
- THE BRIAN JONESTOWN
MASSACRE
- VARIOUS ARTISTS
- MOIRA STEWART
- MUSETTA
- GUSTO EXTERMINATION
FLUID
- TULIPOMANIA
- VIRGIN PASSAGES
- CHRIS LETCHER
- MARC MASTERS
- IGGY POP
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- HEROES OF SWITZERLAND

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