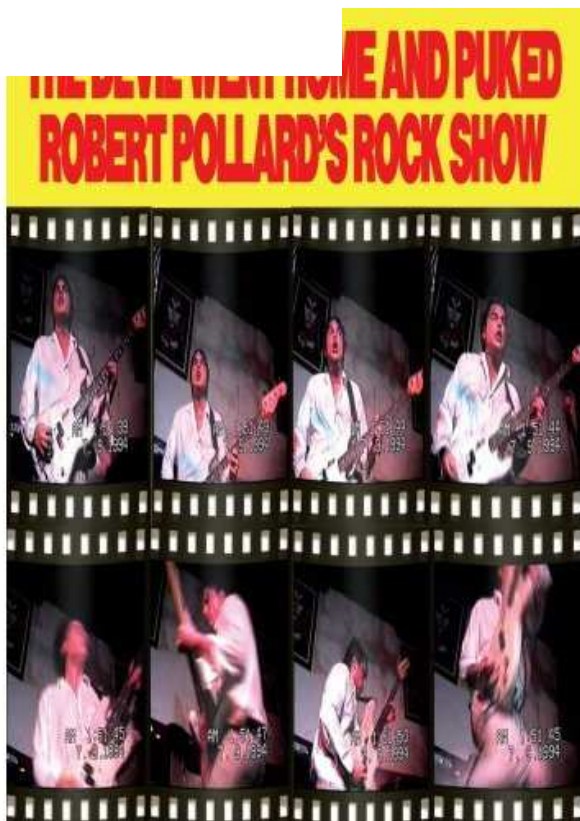


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## ent Home And Puked



It might come as a surprise that former [Guided By Voices](#) guru, [Robert Pollard](#), has quietly amassed the best post-GBV year of his career. Never one to sacrifice quantity for quality, 2009 saw the 51-year-old put out no less than six proper albums - most of which were quite good. In fact, three of these records are gonna make my year-end Top Ten List.

Cementing '09 as a high-water-mark in a career full of 'em, Uncle Bob closed out the year with a smattering of vault releases - a live Boston Spaceships "bootleg", a Circus Devils greatest hits, a four disc/100 song box of unreleased GBV tracks, and a career-spanning DVD "The Devil Went Home and Puked".

A "video collage" culled from Pollard's archives, Puked is a dizzying mish-mesh of snippets - a few seconds of live footage here, old newscasts, drunk people acting drunk. It's an artsy pastiche as lo-fi as anything the band has produced, and certainly, not for the uninitiated.

For the converted, Puked is sort of hilarious, sort of intriguing, sort of frustrating, and definitely entertaining. The too short clips had me salivating for the unedited footage. At 60-something ADD minutes with nary a hint at narrative or context, it's not a treasure trove, so much as a peek at the treasure trove that probably exists in some dusty box in its creator's basement.

Still, for fans, there is much to like here - An unedited performance of GBV classic "Pantherz"; a hilarious clip of one of Pollard's former math students praising him for not teaching the kids anything; footage of Pollard compadre Rich Turiel giving hockey scores on a local newscast (and creeping out the female anchor with a comment about the studio smelling like Spring); footage of Pollard recording vocals for Same Place The Fly Got Smashed. One unexpected and particularly pleasing moment is a video by bandmate Chris Slausarenko's band Svelt that is a shot

for shot recreation of Devo's "Satisfaction".

Perhaps the greatest lesson to be learned from The Devil Went Home and Puked is that Guided By Voices is a band that deserves a proper anthology. Until we get one, we'll have to settle for a phenomenally impressive and growing body of work. A salty salute.

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