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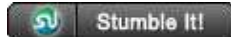
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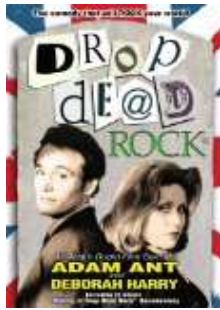
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Drop Dead Rock DVD Review

December 30, 2009 by [Christina](#)Filed under [DVD Reviews](#)[Leave a Comment](#)

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Drop Dead Rock, released on December 8th by MVD Visual, is a comedy, a parody of [punk rock](#) bands, with “a Z-movie budget and a B-movie aesthetic” (Ric Menello, writer), wherein famous music star Spazz-O (Ian Maynard) is captured by the band The Hindenberg, so that he’ll finally listen to them (since they’ve sent him five tapes already!). Reminiscent of Austin Powers but without that character’s cult status and impact, Spazz-O wears a pink robe that says Bozo on the back and a necklace made from a circular saw blade. Like all punk rock stars, he trashes his hotel room and asks for his hallucinogenic “medications” while being conned by his manager Dave (Adam Ant), who wants him dead so that he can take his wife and his money. “Who’s disturbing my bloody chaos?” Spazz-O cries when a groupie comes up to see him (but the groupie is Andie, the Hindenberg’s drummer (Shelly Mars) who then initiates the kidnapping.

Spazz-O’s opinion of the group’s talent is “get out of the music business as soon as possible – perhaps something in the plumbing business” as he entertains possibilities with Bonnie (Shoshana Ami), who is lead [singer](#) Chick’s (Robert Occipinti’s) girlfriend. At least Ian Maynard tries hard to bring some verve to his pivotal and cartoon-like character (in fact, most of the roles are cartoon-like), acting like a spoiled punk rock star who wears an 80’s lime and white-and-black-checked outfit and demands caviar only from certain sea regions on the earth. He lives out his travails (with a failed escape attempt) as the band keeps him in Dino’s (Todd Anthony’s) garage (Dino’s parents having left home on a cruise) and pretends to microwave their poodle Fluffy.

Most of the roles in Drop Dead Rock are negligible and exist just to support the idolatry of Spazz-O, which is fortunate since many of the actors give cardboard-like performances! Writer Ric Menello and Co-Writer and Director Alan Dubin have an interesting discussion about this film that “wants to be larger than it is” and what it’s like to work on a very tight budget (Ric Menello just having come from the making of a long documentary about [Metallica](#)) in The Making Of Drop Dead Rock, a Bonus Feature. They tried to build intrigue by bringing in The Moldinian Front (blamed by the media for Spazz-O’s disappearance) and to save money by having as few locations as possible!

Adam Ant capably plays conniving manager Dave and Deborah Harry is media mogul Thor Sturmudrang (an obvious German pun for drama queen) who tells Adam Ant, “Don’t flatter yourself, if I wanted your heart I’d have it in a jar on my shelf with the others!” If it were up to me I’d drop the entire rest of the cast and center on [Adam Ant](#) and Deborah Harry, who really can act and whose talents are wasted in these subsidiary roles (where, if you blink twice, you’ll miss Deborah Harry completely!). However, for those who like over-played humor and don’t mind going downscale this film could be a riot, although not one I’d necessarily recommend for teens (which would teach them far too much cynicism). Drop Dead Rock attempts to be a cult film but falls far too short of that status, yet it may be entertaining to both fans and anti-fans of punk rock music!



MPAA Rating: Unrated
Running Time: 93 minutes
DVD Release Date: December 8th, 2009

Grade: B

Written by Ric Menello and Alan Dubin

Directed by Alan Dubin

Bonus Features including The Making Of Drop Dead Rock

With Adam Ant, Deborah Harry, Ian Maynard, Shelly Mars, Robert Occhipinti, Todd Anthony and Shoshana Ami

Drop Dead Rock DVD Review by Christina of [Music Room Reviews](#)

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