



'Sid! By Those Who Really Knew Him,' (MVDvisual, 4 stars)

This package features an 80-minute documentary on the "ultimate punk," Sid Vicious, whose idol was Dee Dee Ramone, and who OD'd after allegedly murdering his girlfriend, Nancy Spungen. The documentary is very informative, particularly for folks who see the Sex Pistols as a band with one amazing album who ruined classic punk rock as a commercial force.

There are lots of interviews/anecdotes from friends and fellow scene-makers like Dave Vanian, Rat Scabies and others who feel Sid's involvement with American junkie-groupie Spungen was the last nail in his coffin.

The CD contains a 10-song punk set with Sid singing, backed by guitarist Steve Dior, the late Arthur Kane (bass) and the late Jerry Nolan (drums) that's as good as any Ramones-imitators at the time. Catchy songs like Eddie Cochran's "Something Else," The Stooges' "I Wanna Be Your Dog" and The Ramones' "Chinese Rocks" precede the inevitable "My Way."

Sid fans and curiosity seekers should seek this one out.

- Ricky Flake