



"Aural Amphetamine: Metallica & The Dawn of Thrash," (Sexy Intellectual)

(3 stars)

This mid-April DVD explores how a Bay Area band, inspired by a New Wave of British Heavy Metal, became the cornerstone of a newer, faster, harder type of music. NWOBHM, and then thrash, retained the DIY spirit of punk rock while appropriating influences ranging from Black Sabbath to classical music.

The DVD tells about some NWOBHM bands, like Diamond Head, as well as mentioning some early U.S. examples of this new brand of metal, like Slayer. Metallica, of course, eventually went beyond the boundaries of thrash to become major-league rock stars. The program details their beginnings, early recordings and other information familiar to fans, but it also gives props to others who had less worldwide success.

- Ricky Flake