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HOUR.CA

Air Guitar Nation

Invisible glory

Isa Tousignant

You've never seen greater rock stars than those in Air Guitar

OTTAWA XPRESS

"To err is human - to air guitar is divine." - Björn Turöque

If you know of a more pleasant way to spend two hours than in a darkened room watching insane displays of ridiculous talent while listening to the world's best rock songs back to back, I'd love to know about it. But either way, I wouldn't believe you. Air Guitar Nation is the summit of entertainment.

Every year since 1995 there's been an international air guitar showdown in Oulu, Finland. There are participants from around the globe - Canada, England, Australia, Norway - but up until 2003, no Björn Turöque and C-Diddy: Like a rock Americans. That changed when New Yorkers Kriston Rucker and

Cedric Devitt caught wind of the situation and decided the Star-Spangled Banner had rock to share. They founded U.S. Air Guitar and organized America's first ever air guitar championship in a small club above a NYC strip joint. What they thought would be a little bit of fun turned into a mass madness extravaganza - Howard Stern talked about the competition on air, and before Rucker and Devitt knew what was what, they were turning people away at the door.

Air Guitar Nation follows the winner of that first East Coast competition - actor David Jung, a.k.a. C-Diddy on his journey first to the West Coast competition in L.A., and then to Finland. And what would a good competition movie be without a nemesis to beat? Enter Dan Crane, otherwise known as Björn Turöque, Pumping Iron style. The East Coast runner-up decided he had the goods to beat C-Diddy at the worlds, and so he headed to Oulu with something to prove.

Now, I won't be leaking any spoilers here. Let's just say one of them wins - but they're both a treat to watch, along with each and every one of the doc's participants. Director Alexandra Lipsitz works the subject matter with incredible deftness, letting its intrinsic humour resonate loudly without negating its serious side too. No kidding, some people take this shit to heart! For many, air guitar is a statement of world unification and peace. I've gotta say that after seeing Air Guitar Nation, I sure did love the world.

Air Guitar Nation



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