

ENVY: TRANSFOVISTA

Dir. Jun Kawaguchi DVD – Temporary Residence

It's been 15 years in the making for Japan's Envy. After leaving footprints on multiple continents with countless shows and tours, *Transfovista* is a collection of the indefatigable band's live material. It's a true testament to what makes Envy legendary. The DVD complies more than two hours of footage spanning Envy's full career and catalogue. Opening with the furious and recognizable "Chain Wandering Deeply," the full-force performance sets the tone for the DVD. The chapters transition back and forth between older and newer material from their five-album repertoire, introducing footage from some of the band's most intimate shows (a Northeast U.S. floor performance) to shots from massive Asian festivals. This video retrospective also follows the band with tour footage interspersed throughout the 17-song lineup. While you'll have to provide some lenience for the sound and video quality of some clips (the footage is split between professional and amateur cuts), each segment shows the unrelenting intensity of Envy as musicians and showmen, and also highlights the zeal of their fanbase, without whom these grassroots giants wouldn't exist. From the clips during which each member is visually drained from their full-assault performances to the moments where they're noticeably shaken by the texture and melody they create, the DVD is an homage to the band's vision. The notion becomes clearer with every release added to their discography and also here, with every song that plays out on the disc. For Envy diehards, *Transfovista* is an obvious must, but the diverse editing and sonic montages are enough to captivate anyone. (Meredith Turits)

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