

Good Vibrations

UK 2012

Directed byLisa Barros D'Sa
Glenn Leyburn**Screenplay**Colin Carberry
Glenn Patterson**Cinematography**

Ivan McCullough

Music

David Holmes

103 mins

CastRichard Dormer
*Terri Hooley*Liam Cunningham
*Davy*Dylan Moran
*Pat*Adrian Dunbar
Andy

WFS has screened some great films about the love of music over the years, such as *Heima*, *Dig*, and *Anvil* which covered post-rock/minimalist, rock, & metal respectively. This time we venture into the energy of punk!

Good Vibrations is a heartfelt chronicle of a small-business owner who, like many with similar devotion to their calling, fell in love with his product. Hooley's single-minded path to nurturing Irish punk bands, most of which never got record deals beyond limited pressings on his Good Vibrations label, wasn't prompted by money. Interwoven with compelling historic footage from the era and a great punk score, *Good Vibrations* is a love song to both the power of music and determined political resistance.

Linda Barnard, Toronto Star

Written by first timers, the script has a few gems and fewer surprises, but the directors keep the pace ripping along with the music of the era, archival footage, and snappy editing. The screen belongs to Dormer (*Game of Thrones* fans will recognise him), who makes Hooley a thoroughly loveable rogue. Yes, he's scruffy, selfish and chaotic, but his dream of reuniting a city through the power of music is a project worthy of another listen.

Simon Weaving, Screenwize

Films that capture the vibrancy, energy and soul of great pop are exceedingly uncommon. *A Hard Day's Night* captured Beatlemania. The 2002 documentary *Standing In The Shadows Of Motown* was a moving tribute to Tamla Motown. *The Commitments* had a rare feeling for putting together a band — any band. *Good Vibrations* may sound like the story of The Beach Boys, but it isn't. The glory of *Good Vibrations* is that it captures the unique appeal of pop music at the moment of creation. There's one sequence, where our hero hears the song which could serve as his anthem, and it is worth the price of admission on its own. It's The Undertones performing 'Teenage Kicks', a song that John Peel named as his favourite record of all time. The song's been covered by such modern giants as One Direction, Jedward and The Ukulele Orchestra of Great Britain, but The Undertones' version is still the one to hear. Any film that can bring tears to your eyes by playing a minor hit from 1978 — 'Teenage Kicks' climbed only as far as number 31 in the UK singles chart — is all right with me. Richard Dormer is irrepensible as Hooley, and Jodie Whittaker — who's excelling on TV at present, playing the role of her life in *Broadchurch* — gives a sturdy, sympathetic performance as his long-suffering wife.

Christopher Tookey, Daily Mail

Our next screening...

Blue Ruin

Tue 11 Nov 2014 8:00pm

Dir: Jeremy Saulnier

A mysterious outsider's quiet life is turned upside down when he returns to his childhood home for vengeance.



Voting for *Lore*: A-34 B-38 C-11 D-3 E-0 Attendance: 93 Rating: 80%