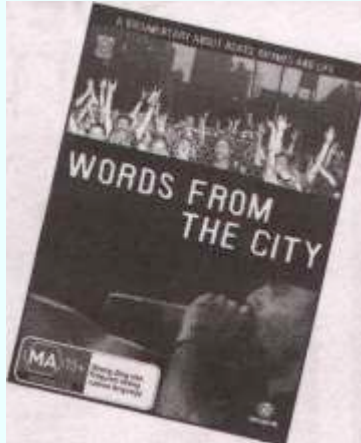


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WORDS FROM THE CITY

8/10

Madman

Filed across one long, hot Australian summer, this impressive documentary from filmmakers Natasha Gadd and Rhys Graham easily provides one of the most comprehensive overviews of the current state of Australian hip hop to date.

By focussing upon a diverse range of artists hailing from considerably different geographical and cultural backgrounds, *Words From The City* manages to present an in-depth examination that stretches all of the way from arena-fillers Bliss & Eso and Hilltop Hood, right through to lesser-known (but no less vital) figures such as Wire MC and Layla. Along the way, there are some fantastically candid off-guard moments to be enjoyed here from some of the bigger names (witness Bliss & Eso's spliffed-up freestyle session in a parked car) as well as insights into both the creative process and each player's personal history. Perhaps most thought provoking here is Wire MC's extremely eloquent description of the loss of his own cultural history when his father was taken away as part of the Stolen Generation, as well as Joelistics' suggestion that many second/third generation migrant kids turn to hip hop as a refuge against casual racism. In any case, *Words From The City* represents a stellar effort from all parties concerned.

Extras: over 50 minutes of additional live performance and interview footage

evilchris