

D215 BIRMINGHAM / BRIXTON 1995

SOUND Villa: less than tip-top but enjoyably good. Brixton: moderate, fuzzy - not much fun.

IMAGE With the exception of H61, which is badly filmed (protracted camera wrestling) the Villa video (two samples below) is lovely stuff - clear, close, colourful and steady. Plenty seen of all band members except drummer Watson (out of shot from left-side camera position). The Brixton film is shot in the same style and from the same perspective. However, because long passages are overly dark, end-product is visually inferior. Also picture-loss through much of T Man.



RUNNING TIME The Villa footage runs 101 minutes and the Brixton a further 82. About a third of the way through Brixton's LARS, the picture cuts abruptly to UK commercial TV and we're treated to 43 minutes "bonus" footage, recorded on the evening of Sunday 8 Feb 2004, of assorted ads, part of a political talk show and a complete episode of *Coronation Street*. I waited and waited for Bob's surprise cameo appearance. I'd heard he'd been in a soap. Man At Bar In Rovers? Third Customer In Kabin? Sadly ... Villa's T Man (start) and Bruce (end) are both clipped and the last half-verse of Every Grain (again!) is spliced away. All other songs (bar second LARS) complete. Total running time here is a huge 3 hours 46 minutes.

PERFORMANCE Good. Less hands-free singing than at other '95 gigs and not every song (e.g. If You See Her, I Believe In You) is whole-heartedly tackled. Tears Of Rage is (to put it politely) *under-rehearsed*.

HIGHLIGHTS (1) Tom Thumb (2) the B'ham Jokerman (3) Love Minus Zero

COMMENT Villa film used here features again in [D357.su](#). For much better Brixton footage, see [D182](#). Though both [D215](#) films are chaptered, lack of menu makes navigation a chore.

GRACIAS P

STARS Three