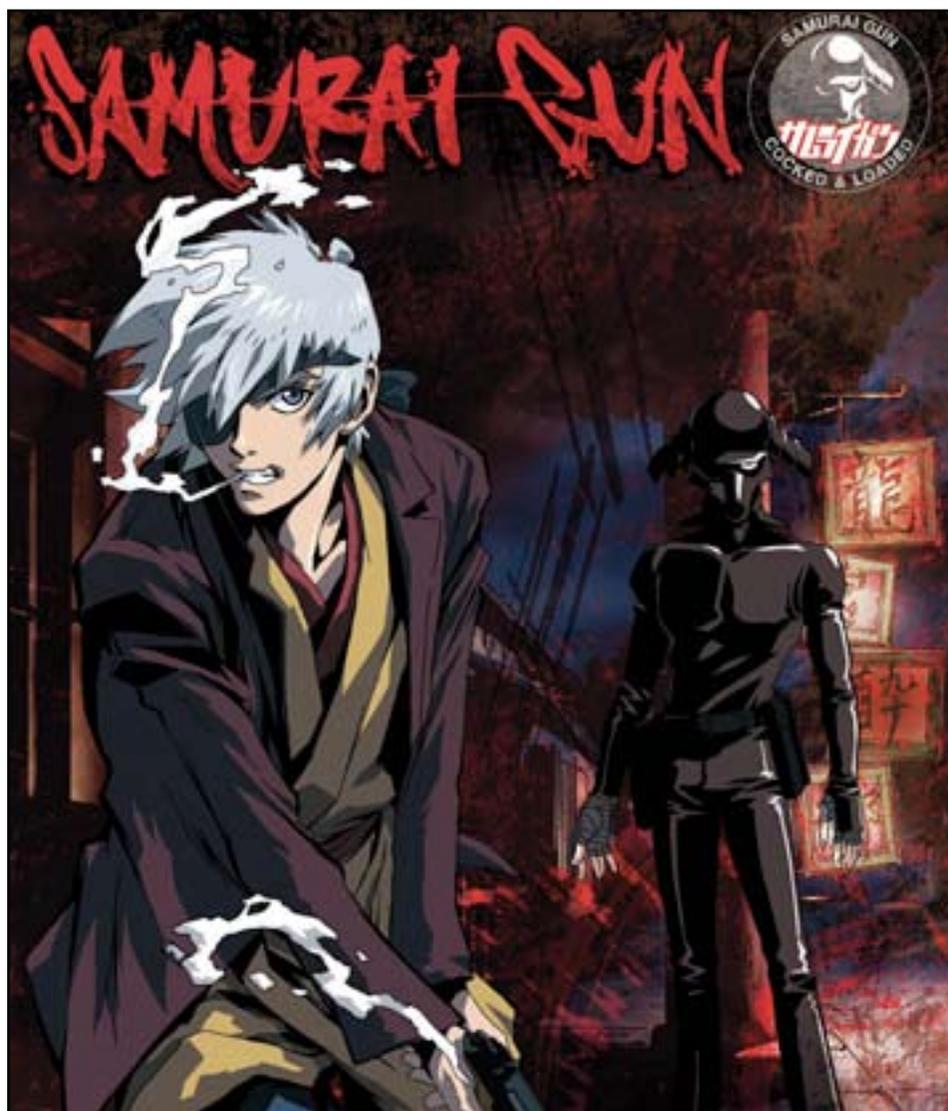


what are we watching on dvd?



SAMURAI GUN

4 Episodes, 100 Minutes, Rated TV MA VSL (ADV Films)

It is the beginning of the industrial revolution, and feudal Japan is in turmoil. The ruling Shogun are wielding their abusive powers to instill fear and dominance over their oppressed subjects.

A group of Samurai have banded together, and, with the development of new weapons and new technology, they have both the will and the hardware to stand up and fight.

I know, many of you are thinking... another "Samurai" anime right?

Well, this one is different. For starters, the anime focuses on our main character, Ichimatsu.

Traumatized by the slaying of his family and forced to watch as his sister was being raped and then slain, Ichimatsu is bent on revenge.

Although touted as a killing machine, Ichimatsu doesn't like to kill but in his mind, he needs to fight back.

In the first episode, three murderous brothers are masters of many female prostitutes of different

ages (young and old) and when they try to escape, the brothers enjoy the slaughter of them.

During this era, we learn of the "Samurai Gun". Samurai's that have special uses with technology and a high proficiency of using a gun.

And in this case, Ichimatsu's alter-ego is "Samurai Gun" and takes down those who are corrupted and murderous.

But in episode 2, we learn that there are more Samurai Gun's out there other than Ichimatsu who are also fighting the good fight.

Episodes 3-4 explores another comrades helping Samurai Gun in battle against a group that is ordered to eliminate them.

As for special features, viewers will be treated with clean opening and ending animations, outtakes, production and character art galleries and production notes.

"Samurai Gun" has a Batman and a Shadowhawk feel to it.

From traumatic experiences leading to fighting for justice and heroes donning cool outfits and using guns instead of swords.

Unlike many other samurai anime, "Samurai Gun" provides a unique spin to the samurai anime genre.

The anime is violent but is needed to show how ruling Shogun are abusing their powers and why the samurai guns do what they do.

The characters are interesting and the storyline so far has captured my attention.

"Samurai Gun" is based on an original story by Kazuhiro Kumagai (published in Young Jump Comics) and produced by AVEX Mode and ADV Films.

— DENNIS A. AMITH

REVIEW GRADE

B