



BEACH BOYS

The Beach Boys and the Satan
(Zeit Media Limited)

This promising documentary rambles on in a disjointed manner, attempting to summarize the Beach Boys' maturation from squeaky-clean champions of surf culture to partakers of the psychedelic experience. Without voice-over narration or overall direction, we bounce between recent interviews of unknown musicians, with the exception of Brian Wilson at his piano, excerpts of songs and retro footage. It's all rather redundant (yes, we know there was "no ethic of rebellion in the early '60s") until we arrive at *Pet Sounds* and the lost *Smile* album, for which Brian Wilson speaks of his creative process. We also learn that Brian was, ironically, deeply afraid of the ocean and that Dennis, the self-destructive brother, drowned.

When the Charles Manson connection eventually comes into play, we're shown scenes of Manson Family member and murderer Bobby Beausoleil (who befriended Dennis) in a Kenneth Anger film entitled *Lucifer Rising*. Without many details, we learn how Manson selected the house of producer Terry Melcher (on Cielo Drive), who worked with Dennis and the Boys in addition to Manson at Spahn Ranch, as the location for a massacre that would kill Sharon Tate. This "countercultural killing" exposed the sinister underbelly of the sunshiny California scene, as well as the hippie movement, but what exactly it reveals about the Beach Boys is not properly put forth. -Amy Dupcak



HATEBREED

Live Dominance
(Koch)

The mighty Hatebreed has been an established band for over 10 years. In this period of time, they went from the underground to becoming one of the most important bands in heavy music today. They finally put together a DVD, appropriately titled *Live Dominance*, and it does not disappoint. The main performance was shot this past March, at the legendary Harpo's in Detroit, to a sold out crowd.

For this special performance, Hatebreed left every drop of blood, bitter tear, and bead of sweat on the stage and performed 22 of their best songs, including anthems such as "I Will Be Heard" and "Live For This." They also included classics like "Voice of Contention" and "Empty Promises." The band has phenomenal chemistry and the members all have one goal in common: to destroy everything, night after night! They are not about stage antics; they are real and their fans recognize this.

Additionally, the DVD has footage from other performances, including the show they played at Irving Plaza in NYC last December for the Stillborn Fest. Hatebreed is already planning on touring again next year all over the world, so you can expect a new DVD and record all within the next year. For now, enjoy *Live Dominance*. -JoSchuftan



TALIB KWELI

Live at the Shrine
(Blacksmith)

When a rapper steps out of the studio and up onto the stage, they say he automatically transforms into an emcee. Watching *Talib Kweli Live at the Shrine* is like seeing a real performer in his natural habitat. For the true hip-hop heads who couldn't make it out to the shows, all of the favorites are in there, like Strong Arm Steady, Res, and the whole Blacksmith family.

In Kweli's first live concert DVD, he carries the crowd through the songs. It's about real hip-hop not that bourgeoisie, commercially fueled, unrecognizable version of hip-hop. The energy given out by each of the performers proves that they really love what they do, and their passion is only rivaled by that of the fans. Talib (the name translates to "student" in Arabic) goes from pupil to master of ceremonies on the West Coast, miles away from home. As usual, this Brooklyn-bred rapper delivers verse after verse of lyrically poignancy. He kills it on "Get Em High," giving the song a new intensity, but according to him, "all you really need is love."

In the bonus features, the KRS-One interview is the hidden highlight. His commentary is surprisingly insightful and offers an interesting perspective from someone who has been in the game for longer than most. -Linda Li