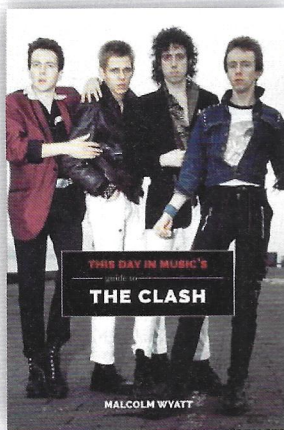


# THE BUSINESS BOOKS

# FILMS & DVDs



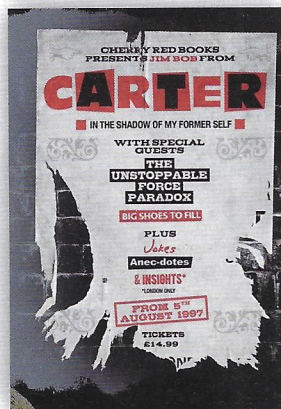
## GUIDE TO THE CLASH

Malcolm Wyatt  
(This Day In Music)  
7/10

This biography covers the long-haul of one of the most influential punk bands of all time, before, during and after the classic line-up of Strummer, Jones, Simonon and Headon shared a stage. Their experimentation through reggae, dub, funk, ska and rockabilly is examined in the studio and through the audience's perception. From kicking off as the 101'ers to their 1977 debut, they'd already secured a place in the music history books, long before London Calling blew the roof off the operation, launching them into a whole new level. Although biographer Malcolm Wyatt is far from an insider on The Clash camp, he interviews everyone he can get his hands on and releases some insightful and shock-

ing new revelations. He speaks with Joe Strummer's widow Lucinda and good friend Gordon McHarg and covers the band's journey to breaking America, their tours and their implosion at the height of success. The 368-page book also goes into The Clash's anti-political stance and later their post-split careers as well as the shockingly early death of Joe Strummer. A perfect celebration marking 40 years since The Clash's landmark album 'London Calling'.

Tom Chance



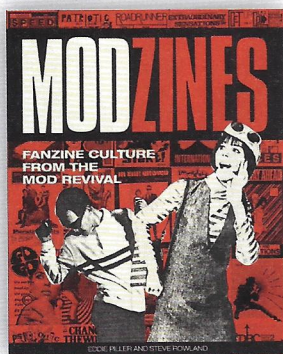
## IN THE SHADOW OF MY FORMER SELF

Jim Bob  
(Cherry Red)  
9/10

An extremely open account of the tough years following the break-up of Carter USM, Jim Bob talks about his years as a recovering former rock star. Jim Bob relates his jealousy towards Blur frontman Damon Albarn to the Morrissey song 'We Hate It When Our Friends Become Successful'. The book begins with Jim Bob stating that he's found a cure for cancer on Twitter and gets increasing more bizarre from there. By the prologue, Jim Bob is already promising an alien abduction. Carter USM rose to fame merging acoustic guitars with a punk attitude and electronic backing tracks in the '80s and

'90s. From '87 to '97 the band relished their fame which grew through touring the UK's pub and club scene. Carter rose to the top of the album charts and left a legacy of hit records and unforgettable gigs of thousands screaming: "YOU FAT BASTARD!" Throughout his career Jim Bob has been signed to The Ten Forty Sound, Cherry Red, EMI, Big Cat, Rough Trade and Fierce Panda – despite all his determination the industry seemed to move on without him, leaving a bitter taste after the band's wild ride. An abundant mixture of realist British wit, relatable in its underdog story and unrelatable because it's Jim Bob: he dresses as a milkman and hangs out at the apex of Britpop.

Paula Frost



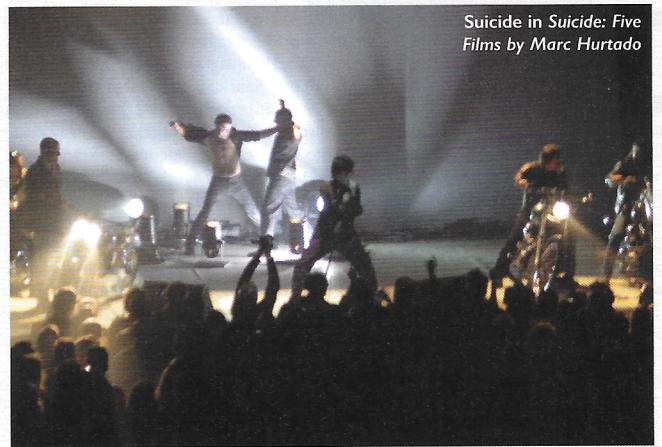
## MODZINES: FANZINE CULTURE FROM THE MOD REVIVAL

Eddie Piller and Steve Rowland  
(Acid Jazz)  
6/10

Vive Le Rock Magazine began as an extension of old school fanzine music culture which extraordinarily still holds its place, despite the internet revolution. Modzines takes a look back to the leading figures from the '60s scene from fanzine editors, bands and DJs, to promoters, journalists and main faces. Interviews, stories, anecdotes and memories capture the scene from an insider perspective and one that mainstream print would never have access to. This

book documents the mod revival years of the '70s and '80s kicked off by punk fanzines. The film 'Quadrophenia', alongside bands like The Jam and Purple Hearts, helped bring on a resurgence of fanzines like Tailormade, Face To Face, Roadrunner, DRC and Maximum Speed. This book is a collector's piece tracking the fast living mod revival through an incredible collection of posters, artwork and photography. It puts into perspective how dedicated kids were to keeping this subculture alive.

Paula Frost



Suicide in Suicide: Five Films by Marc Hurtado

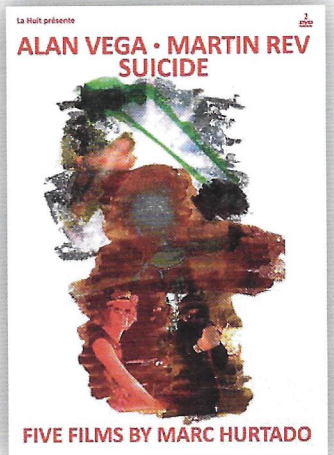
## ALAN VEGA & MARTIN REV: SUICIDE: FIVE FILMS BY MARC HURTADO

(Weinerworld)  
7/10

Synth-pop, electronic, art-punk; however you define Suicide, they were certainly pioneering in sound, starting out in 1970. Merging punk and electro, without them there would be no Nine Inch Nails, New Order, Depeche Mode, Radiohead, Aphex Twin or Daft Punk.

The New York duo was known as much for making use of drum machines and minimalism as they were for the confrontation and violence at their early gigs. They were one of the first acts to write 'punk music' on one of their gig adverts way back in 1970. The challenging and judicious group influenced generations and laid the foundations for post-punk. This epic five-disc DVD starts with the 'Infinite Mercury' film, a portrait of Alan as a painter and artist. Packed full of exclusive content including footage of music videos, concerts, interviews and even Alan Vega in a New York Hospital. It also has a 36-page booklet and 16 paintings by Sebastien Vitre.

Neil Watkins



## CONNY PLANK: THE POTENTIAL OF NOISE

(Cleopatra)  
7/10

A raw and honest look into the legacy of the West German record producer and musician Conny Plank known as a revolutionary in sound experimentation. This DVD shines a light on the creative innovator through interviews with Devo, Nue!, Whodini, DAF, Eurythmics, Scorpions and Ultravox. Starting out on a small farm in Germany, the footage of his studio back in the '70s and '80s shows in-depth realism behind the classic recordings he's known for. Conny's visions of sound went on to shape the charts in the UK and USA. The documentary is a mixture of interviews spoken in English and German with subtitles as Conny's son retraces his father's steps. In 1987, Conny passed away when his son Stephan was just thirteen. The film is a journey of discovery about his father that takes him through music history and around the world. Now age 20, he gets to hear touching stories about his father from the musicians and artists whose careers he helped shape. From avant-garde to electronic and krautrock to progressive, Conny is still remembered as one of the most innovative sound experimenters and it was all done in his self-made studio hub. Part of the official selection for SXSW Film Festival 2018 and an award winner at multiple other film festivals, this is a moving story of music history.

Alfie Taylor

