



TAL FARLOW: "Talmage Farlow"

By Fred Shuster, Music Writer
U-Entertainment

(MVD-DVD) ★★★★★

There's heartbreakingly little film footage of the great jazz guitarists in their prime — just snippets of Wes Montgomery, Grant Green, Lenny Breau, Ted Greene, Kenny Burrell and others. This definitive 1981 documentary on the life and music of solitary six-string genius Tal Farlow goes a long way in fixing things. Here, the unusual story of the late Farlow — who walked away from the jazz world in his prime to work in peace as a sign painter — is told engagingly by filmmaker Lorenzo DeStefano. Along with interviews, Farlow is shown in action, his huge hands splayed across the fretboard to issue ultra-fast single-note runs and chord solos while playing in a trio with pianist Tommy Flanagan, as well as in a charming jam session with Breau. Musicians of any genre will love this film.