

# diw

INDEPENDENT THOUGHT ON INDEPENDENT MUSIC

## Moving Pictures

DVD Reviews By Nick Dedina

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### Galaxie 500

*Don't Let Our Youth Go To Waste—Galaxie 500: 1987-1991*  
(Plexifilm)

Indie rock (as opposed to the "alternative" kind, which is basically the same thing with a bigger expense account) pretty much kicked off with Galaxie 500. *Don't Let Our Youth Go To Waste* features a bunch of concerts, a couple of videos and some U.K. TV appearances, but overall this two-disc career retrospective is a letdown. Perhaps I'm unfairly comparing it to the amazingly complete Can DVD set that just came out, but even the most die-hard fan has to admit that Galaxie 500 weren't particularly charismatic in person or exciting onstage. The creators of this DVD should have ditched a concert or two and added a solid documentary. G500 completists will be happy with this, but everyone else just needs the nice interview booklet and the band's old releases.

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### Hip Hop Time Capsule—The Best Of RETV 1992

(Music Video Distributors)

*Hip Hop Time Capsule* states that 1992 was a banner year in hip-hop. True? I have no idea, though my teenage cousin watched it like it was *The Beatles Anthology*. This includes videos and clips featuring everyone from Public Enemy to Das EFX, with bonus freestyle battles and modern-day interviews.

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### Iggy & The Stooges

*Live In Detroit*  
(Creem/Music Video Distributors)

Much of my initial excitement faded when I discovered that *Live In Detroit* didn't capture the Stooges of yore but rather the recent "Experience it for the first time!" nostalgia band with Mike Watt on bass. That being said, the disc doesn't suck—this 2003 concert is way better than the one I attended a couple of years back with Iggy fronting some young blond metal boys, and it comes with a bonus in-store concert that's more exciting than the official one. In-store, Mr. Pop offers good comments and shows the wisdom to keep his goddamn shirt on for at least three minutes. Best of all, the drummer plays on a cardboard box!

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### Peggy Lee

*Swing Era*  
(Disconforme/Music Video Distributors)

You may think you want rock, but you are, as always, wrong. The entire *Swing Era* series is a blast, with "soundies" (early videos you selected jukebox-style) and movie clips featuring big bands, vocalists, early R&B acts and bop cats such as Dizzy Gillespie. The Peggy Lee seen and heard here is the beautiful young blonde and not the eccentric cult item of later years who hid under an Andy Warhol wig. Cool jazz singer June Christy is also included on the DVD, along with three female bandleaders I've never even heard of, all of whom shake their conducting batons with such wild abandon that it's completely ridiculous. One of them, the complete knockout Rita Rio, is amazing—she sings, dances, conducts with appropriate sexual frenzy and even does a ventriloquist act. Watch and learn, Galaxie 500—this is entertainment!

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### Sweet

*Glitz, Blitz & Hitz*  
(Creem/Music Video Distributors)

British '70s glam band Sweet only had three big hits in the U.S. ("Fox On The Run," "Ballroom Blitz" and the uncharacteristically ornate "Love Is Like Oxygen"), but this documentary on the band is just awesome. Made for around 37 cents, *Glitz, Blitz & Hitz* has tons of concert and archival footage interspersed with interviews with the kindly lead guitarist holding onto his glitterdome hairstyle; their songwriter/producer, who oozes oil; and their discarded manager, who brings to mind a defeated Phil Collins. It also has the good sense to include a video for "Wig Wam Bam" that finds the band on a freezing English beach in full "F Troop" Indian dress. Buy this now!

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### Wesley Willis

*The Daddy Of Rock 'N' Roll*  
(Music Video Distributors)

Attention smug hipsters, cultural anthropologists and well-meaning college students! *The Daddy Of Rock 'N' Roll* is a documentary about Wesley Willis, the wildly schizophrenic, sadly departed rock chanter. Willis' songs are funny, completely unique and oddly liberating, but this unflinching portrait is also heartbreaking in a *Dog Day Afternoon* kind of way. While the filmmakers stop this from sinking to the level of a snide freak show, we are presented with Willis bragging about being "the daddy of rock 'n' roll" at the same time he's shown as being just another insane guy on a city bus.

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