



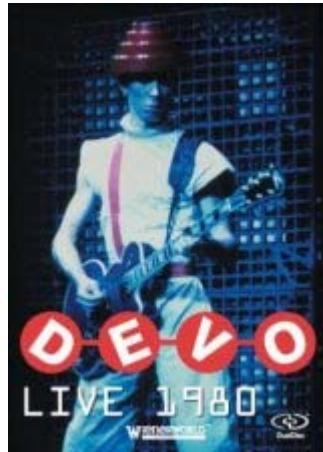
ABOUT US

CONTACT US

LINKS

GET TOTAL MUSIC

- HOME
- NEWS
- FEATURES
- DEMOS
- LIVE LISTINGS
- REVIEWS**
 - ▶ [album reviews](#)
 - ▶ [book reviews](#)
 - ▶ **DVD reviews**
 - ▶ [live reviews](#)
- FORUM



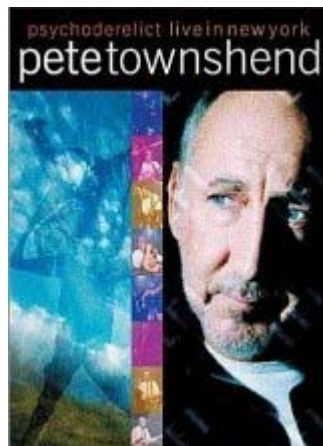
Devo

Live 1980
(Wienerworld: DualDisc)

Formed in Akron Ohio in 1972 by Kent State art students Jerry Casale and Mark Mothersbaugh (the name came from their concept of 'de-evolution' - the idea being that instead of evolving mankind had actually regressed) Devo created a highly stylised amalgam of Kraftwerk, Talking Heads and the Residents, hitching a ride with (and in consequence helping establish) the new fledgling MTV Network through early classic videos like the flowerpot head western soap opera 'Whip It'. Their time in the limelight was brief - and not always comfortable as Rolling Stone completely missed the point and decided

they were fascists - but this concert filmed in the Phoenix Theatre in Petaluma, California at the height of their powers in 1980 indisputably proves that off-the-wall songs like 'Jocko Homo', 'Mongoloid', 'Uncontrollable Urge', 'Come Back Jonee' and their spastic shudder through the Rolling Stones 'Satisfaction' still sound fresh and vital today. Visually arresting, Devo were clearly something to behold live, especially Mark Mothersbaugh who's frantic, uptight, stage presence becomes positively unnerving by the concerts end. Extras include more, seldom seen, concert footage and the complete concert in CD form on the flipside of the disc.

[Buy this DVD](#)



Pete Townshend

Live
(Universal)


Many of us refuse to buy into Townshend's continuing conceit that his music needs to transcend the concept of 'pop', into his obsession that work like *Tommy*, the unrealised *Lifehouse* (which ultimately became *Who's Next*) and *Quadrophenia* be recognised as more than just a collection of songs. These are the signs of a man who takes himself far, far too seriously. Indeed nobody but Townshend himself has ever fully grasped what the hell he's on about (including, incidentally, the other members of the Who), and even after listening to the, frankly tortuous, explanation of his latest opus *Psychoderelict* it's obvious this is once again another of

his vague, woolly headed attempts to say something big, and frankly failing. So obviously we hate this right? Well, no because if you wade past the convoluted and confused 'storyline' (in this case delivered via live dialogue by actors) you will, once again, find some fantastic songs, some of which even hold their own beside tracks like 'Behind Blue Eyes', 'Baba O'Reilly', 'Pinball Wizard' and 'Won't Get Fooled Again' (all here as well). The man also retains an absolutely iconic stage presence, and would be well worth watching even if he was simply singing from the phone book.

SCREEN★SELECT
The UK's market leader

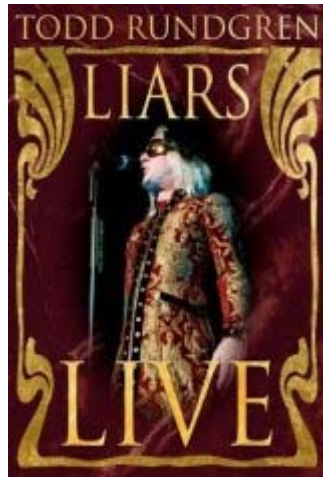
UNLIMITED DVD RENTAL
by FREE 1st class post

30,000 titles
No late fees
No due dates



Click now to claim 4 FREE DVD rentals

[Buy this DVD](#)



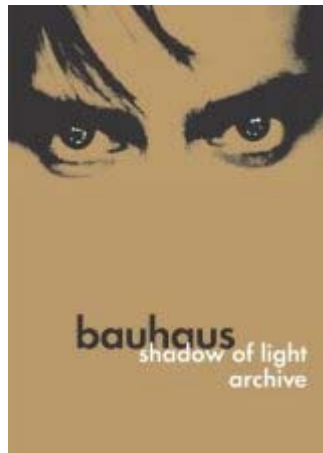
Todd Rundgren

Liars Live (Sanctuary)

There is a hideous record company term, 'legacy acts', doing the rounds nowadays, a label young go-getters use as a catch all term for 'old acts' - and sadly too often this also means they are going to repackage some defunct old shite which would be best left in the vaults. Of course that label also covers very active performers like Bob Dylan, Neil Young, Lou Reed and the 'dismiss him at your peril' talent that is Todd Rundgren. Like the aforementioned acts Rundgren has had his fallow years but 2004 saw a major return to form with the album *Liars* and superb subsequent tour, the results of which can be found on this DVD. Those of us lucky enough to have caught this resurrected

Rundgren performance could often be found boring people bandy about it for days afterwards - although the uninitiated might find his bizarre choice of Herman Munster boots disconcerting, but long time Rundgren-ophiles know all about his habitual habiliment horrors. Drawing mostly from the album of the same name the show is split roughly down the middle into rock racket and soul review sections and, a few odd glaring lighting problems aside, successfully captures the man (and band) in consistently excellent form.

[Buy this DVD](#)



Bauhaus

Shadow Of Light/Archive (Beggars Banquet)

Collecting together two long deleted VHS releases, a mixed bag of videos and live material, this DVD marries the video collection *Shadows Of Light*, which includes classic Bauhaus moments like 'Bela Lugosi's Dead' and 'In The Flat Field' - alongside their two hit cover versions 'Telegram Sam' and 'Ziggy Stardust' - (there can be little doubt Marilyn Manson devoured early Bauhaus Videos like 'Mask') and live set *Archive*, an '82 performance recorded at the Old Vic in London. Some of the videos have not dated well ('She's In Parties' in particular has more or less every '80s indie cliché in the book - dripping taps, broken glass, bare

light bulbs, moody lighting etc, etc), and the linking shots for the live set, featuring a vaguely sinister old Victorian bloke, are just daffy art school nonsense (with the last track 'Sanity Assassin' nothing more than a poorly cobbled together selection of previously seen clips), but the live material faithfully represents the bands energetic live shows, the none more gothic Peter Murphy throwing shapes like a post punk Nosferatu equal parts David Bowie, Iggy Pop, David Sylvian and Gary Numan, whilst the band whip up their pummelling trademark beefed up mix of the New York Dolls, Siouxsie And The Banshees and Joy Division.

[Buy this DVD](#)



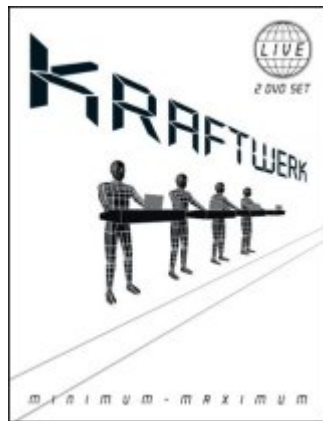
New York Dolls

**All Dolled Up
(Wienerworld)**

Politely referred to in the mainstream press of the time as a cross between the Rolling Stones and Alice Cooper – an early report, which shows film of the Doll's haphazardly careering through 'Personality Crisis' describes them thus... 'the music is rough, unpolished and the lyrics are shouted, never sung, the songs belligerent, hostile and definitely loud – this is a new generation and a new music' (the shows anchor man, clearly not at all keen, asks what could possibly be more 'crazy' than the Dolls and is told of an act called Iggy Pop, who cut's himself onstage). This entertaining documentary - filmed by Bob Gruen and his wife Nadya

over a period of three years - includes some magnificently frazzled interviews, some even more magnificently frazzled performances and beautifully documents the bands transformation from skinny, scruffy street punks to the sluttily attired, primped, back-combed outfit who provided such a major influence for punk (and such a revolting development for middle America, just watch out for the disgusted looks the band draw in the airport scene). It's monochrome, grainy, hard to follow on occasions, the epitome of 'hand-held-movie-making' but it perfectly captures the Doll's seedy glamour up until their self-destruction in 1975.

[Buy this DVD](#)



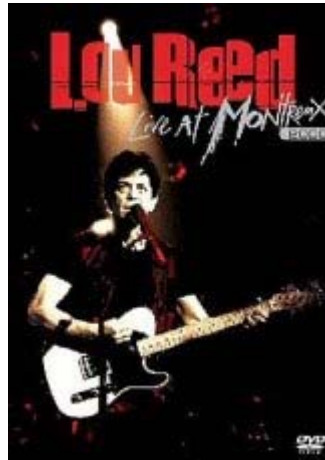
Kraftwerk

**Minimum Maximum
(EMI)**

Given that the CD release of this live material is already firmly ensconced in our top twenty albums of the year it will come as no surprise that we are very, very keen on this double DVD as well. As our contributing editor remarked after having caught this live show at the Royal Festival Hall last year it is amazing just "how the sight of four middle-aged men standing still behind laptops can be quite so hypnotic", this is about as far removed from the big hair, tight trousers, phallic instrument thrusting concept of the live 'pop' extravaganza as it is possible to get (the

Aphex Twin laying down behind the stage whilst large teddy bears dance to his atonal clanking accepted). The influence this band has had on dance music as a whole is damn near inestimable, even given lynchpins Ralf Hutter and Florian Schneider's ponderous work rate and this live set with newbies Fritz Hilpert and Henning Schmitz prove Kraftwerk are as relevant and innovative in 2005 as they ever were. The staging, lighting and use of video, as you might imagine with such static performers, is most impressive, and also comprehensively lays to rest the concept that they have no sense of humour. Triumphant.

[Buy this DVD](#)



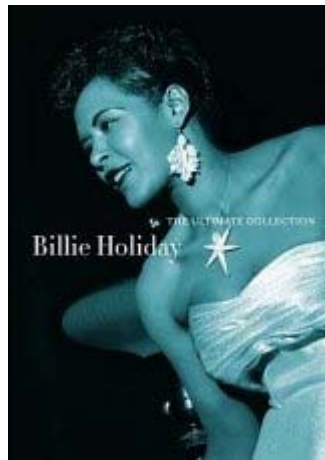
Lou Reed

**Live At Montreux 2000
(Eagle Vision)**

It's almost certainly time that the Montreux Jazz Festival dropped the 'jazz' part of their moniker as whilst there is undoubtedly a lot of jazz and blues on show it's just as likely nowadays to include patently un-jazzy types like Suzanne Vega or, as in this case, curmudgeonly rock legend Lou Reed, however this is a minor gripe when it allows for natty little sets like this one, which might otherwise have just been committed to audience memory, to find a place in our DVD libraries. Much of the set is drawn from his Ecstasy album – the only other album getting more than a one track look in being New York – with Reed backed by

Mike Rathke, Fernando Saunders and Tony 'Thunder' Smith and can best be described, on the whole, as full metal racket Reed. The man himself is taciturnly mute for much of the set (aside from band intros), but is obviously enjoying himself and, aside from a breakneck deconstruction of Romeo And Juliette (which steamrolls right over the lyrics), this metallic attack on his material works pretty well, his one concession to fans in search of hits a final funeral march through Perfect Day .

[Buy this DVD](#)



Billie Holiday

**The Ultimate Collection
(Universal)**

It's not that often you find rare radio performances (five in all) included as part of a DVD release, but when the artist in question's film and television performances are as rare as Dodo soup then *any* new material is very welcome and the lack of visual accompaniment, save song-writing credits, can be forgiven. The visual performances themselves, all eight of them, are fascinating performances (if a bit grainy in both the sound and vision Dept.) - and also include a couple of great clips of Louis Armstrong and Bessie Smith. The whole package is then rounded off with a series of extras including a fascinating timeline, some rarely

seen photos, two audio interview segments, one with Holiday and one a series of illuminating chats with her producer, friends and band-mates. There is also an audio rehearsal of Jeepers Creepers with Jimmy Rowles in 1955 and Holidays full recording history, making this not just one for the fans but also an excellent starting point for those keen to investigate this talented, but tragically doomed, human being.

[Buy this DVD](#)

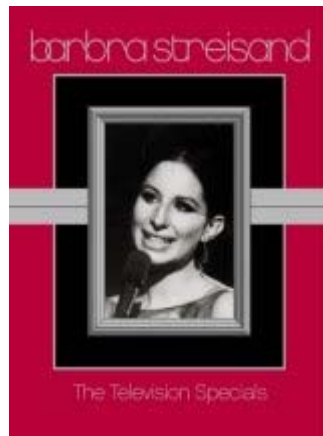


Dickey Betts & Great Southern

Back Where It All Begins (Eagle Vision)

Dickey Betts, for those of you not up on your 'good ol' boy' southern rock outfits, was one of the founding members of the mighty Allman Brothers Band and, unlike some of his old muckers, is still alive. He parted company with the Brothers many moons ago and now plays with his own outfit Great Southern, but as one of the creators of some classic old rockers he is quite entitled to dip into the ABB back catalogue, something he does extensively here playing live at The Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame. Doubtless to head off any allegations of trading on past glories, Betts insists the Great Southern takes on his old Allman Brothers material is very different, but this proves to be more or less totally untrue (right down to having a Gregg Allman soundy-likey keyboard player), but in truth if you have material like Statesboro Blues, Jessica or Blue Sky to draw on then to play 'em any other way would be pretty irritating for all concerned anyway. Extras include plenty of interview and some rehearsal material and a five track CD, so plenty of bang for your buck and just the thing for any fan of fluid, soulful, extended guitar jamming.

[Buy this DVD](#)



Barbra Streisand

**The Television Specials
(Warner Music Vision)**

Having proved herself to be something of a monumental grump over the last few years (rivalling Lou Reed and Van Morrison in the humourless git stakes), and rather wasted her talents working with hirsute falsetto-ed oaf Barry Gibb it's high time Bab's (as she doubtless would hate to be called), re-acquainted the world with what she does well, something this five DVD box-set addresses admirably - the five DVDs in question are four TV specials from the '60s My Name is Barbra, Color Me Barbra, Belle of 14th Street, Barbra Streisand: Happening in Central Park,

and one from 1973 Barbra Streisand...And Other Musical Instruments. Given the age of some of these 'Specials' (the first My Name... dates from 1965 and is, kof, black and white) it's no surprise to find the set pieces and costumes a bit on the, erm, dated side but you wouldn't be buying this to marvel at Bab's dressed as Nefertiti or singing to an elephant (or indeed coyly acting out 'Alice Blue Gown' as a stripper), nope it's that voice we're after and it's here in spades, especially on A Happening in Central Park which bins the TV sets for an orchestra and a live New York audience .

[Buy this DVD](#)

[DVD Review Archive](#)

Copyright: The Fearless Organisation 2004
Web site designed, built and maintained by Craig Goult at teneightydesign in association with CaPhun Ung at Phylo.