## Montreal Mirror : Holiday Gift Guide 2006 : CDs/DVDs

early stuff that truly rules—just can't get enough of "Just Can't Get Enough"—but the comp covers the breadth of the '80s releases.

No greatest-hits comp from Pet Shop Boys this year, just their admirable new album Fundamental, but longtime fans will thoroughly enjoy A Life in Pop, the new biographical DVD loaded with inside info, rare footage and interviews with not only Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe (what, he talks?!) but compadres like Robbie Williams. Speaking of whom, the DVD And Through It All captures a decade of his solo hits, live.

George Michael's Twentyfive is a three-disc set, divided into "For Living," "For Loving," and "For the Loyal," covering his massive solo hits, best-known numbers from his time with Wham!, and duets with the likes



of Mary J. Blige, Elton John and Paul McCartney. Hugh Cornwell, once the frontman of notorious punk band the Stranglers, likewise offers a three-CD set, People Places Pieces—three discs of live tracks from both his solo career and his days with the Stranglers.

For some far nastier punk action, check out the seminal rage-meisters Bad Brains on the DVD Live at CBGB 1982, as HR and the lads shred through classics like "Big Takeover" and "Banned in D.C." while the crowd go dangerously wild—a true classic. There's also Ten Years of Revolutionary Rock 'n' Roll, a two-hour documentary about Wendy O. Williams and the Plasmatics that borders on Spinal Täp lunacy,



supplemented by insane live footage. The biggest band that nobody seems to remember, WOW and co. upstaged Kiss and Alice Cooper in the shock-rock theatrics department while predating the fuck-me—or is that fuck-you?—feminism by years.

## Cool junk for punks

Clearly in the fuck-you column is Washington's baddest bunch of bastards, the Dwarves. While bonuses on FEFU the DVD capture the instant brawls their gigs generally became, the centrepiece is the "dirty version" video for "FEFU," a bloodcaked frenzy of sleaze, violence and sacrilege starring the bratty exhibitionists from Suicide Girls, and a dancing sex dwarf to boot.



On a Canadian note, Quebec's Reset have a best-of CD out called No Worries No Limits. Who's Reset? Today, you know them as Simple Plan. Another notable northern release is Doot Doola Doot Doo... Doot Doo!, a grab bag of guerrilla-goofball interviews (with everyone from Marilyn Manson to Mikhail Gorbachev), live stuff, videos and more, care of garage-rock eminence grise/menace with a microphone/dress-code disaster Nardwuar the Human Serviette. Double that up with a copy of