



Diamonds Are Forever

P4.5/S: DD4.0 DTS4.0 WSR CRITIC SCORE 4.0

Previously reviewed in Issue 46 on DVD. On Disc One, there is an optional commentary with Director Guy Hamilton and members of the cast and crew. On Disc Two, under *Declassified*, you will find a five-minute 1971 BBC interview with Sean Connery, five minutes of the do's and don'ts of close-quarter combat, an extended scene, a two-minute storyboard comparison, two minutes looking at how the explosions came to be, five alternate and expanded angles, and six deleted scenes. The *Mission Control* segment is the same as is provided with *Goldfinger* (read *Goldfinger* review for more details). *Mission Dossier* has two featurettes: a 31-minute behind-the-scenes look and a 41-minute peek into the life of Cubby Broccoli. *Ministry Of Propaganda* is the home of two theatrical trailers, five TV broadcasts, and three radio spots. And, last, but not least, the *Image Database* is a stills gallery.TM

The anamorphically enhanced 2.32:1 DVD picture is a big improvement over the previously reviewed DVD, which really wasn't all that bad. Still, color fidelity is improved and edge enhancement has been reduced dramatically. Details are well rendered, and source element artifacts have been cleaned up well.TM

The Dolby® Digital and DTS® Digital Surround™ encodings are improvements, but dated fidelity is still an issue. The mix has created a broad, deep front stage with basic surround envelopment, neither of which were available on the previous release. Dialogue cap sound slightly boxy, and the entire soundtrack has little high-frequency extension, but music has been restored very well, especially Shirley Bassey's fantastic title song. The DTS encoding provides a smoother response over the Dolby encoding.TM **WSR**

MGM
Catalog Number M106000
PG/1971/120 Minutes
Dolby Digital & DTS
Digital Surround 5.1
Guy Hamilton (Director)

Stars Sean Connery, Jill St. John, Charles Gray, Lana Wood, Jimmy Dean, Bruce Cabot & Bernard Lee



The Living Daylights

P3.5/S: DD3.5 DTS4.0 WSR CRITIC SCORE 3.0

Previously reviewed in Issue 46 on DVD. On Disc One, there is an optional commentary with Director John Glen and members of the cast and crew. On Disc Two, under *Declassified*, you will find two deleted scenes with an introduction by Director Glen; a 48-minute featurette, narrated by Roger Moore, looking back at 25 years of the Bonds, those magnificent toys, to-die-for cars, and, of course, all of the Bond Beauties; four Silver Anniversary featurettes (*Cubby Broccoli*, *Maryam D'Abo*, *Around The World With James Bond*, and *The New Bond Car*); five minutes with Timothy Dalton at a Vienna Press Conference; seven minutes spent with Mr. Dalton on acting; a six-minute Dalton/d'Abo interview; and eight minutes looking at the ice chase scene. The *Mission Control* segment is the same as is provided with *Goldfinger* (read *Goldfinger* review for more details). *Mission Dossier* has four featurettes: a 34-minute behind-the-scenes look, 43 minutes into the life of Ian Fleming, a music video by A-Ha, and the making of the music video. *Ministry Of Propaganda* is

home to three theatrical trailers. And, last, but not least, the *Image Database* is a stills gallery.TM

The anamorphically enhanced 2.38:1 DVD picture has been cleaned up slightly, with the few source element artifacts that were noticeable on the previously reviewed edition completely removed. Black levels are deeper in this release, but the image appears to be too highly contrasted, and inadequate shadow delineation makes the image look flat. Edge enhancement has been cleaned up well, but it is still noticeable on high contrast transitions.TM

The Dolby® Digital and DTS® Digital Surround™ encodings are improved slightly over the previous discrete multichannel soundtrack, but fidelity is still slightly limited, especially in effects. The mix is crafted well, with effects imaged nicely across the front stage and accurate pans from the front to the rear of the room. Fidelity is improved noticeably in the DTS encoding.TM **WSR**

MGM
Catalog Number M106000
PG/1987/131 Minutes
Dolby Digital & DTS
Digital Surround 5.1
John Glen (Director)

Stars Timothy Dalton, Maryam d'Abo, Joe Don Baker, Art Malik, John Rhys-Davies & Jesper Krabbe



The Man With The Golden Gun

P3.5/S: DD3.5 DTS4.0 WSR CRITIC SCORE 4.0

Previously reviewed in Issue 40 on DVD. On Disc One, there are two optional commentaries: the first with Sir Roger Moore, and the second with Director Guy Hamilton and members of the cast and crew. On Disc Two, under *Declassified*, you will find a three-minute video clip from The Russell Harty Show, featuring Moore; a less-than-two-minute on-location segment; over three minutes of fighting girls; five minutes from the American Thrill stunt show, with optional commentary; and five minutes with the director. The *Mission Control* segment is the same as is provided with *Goldfinger* (read *Goldfinger* review for more details). *Mission Dossier* has two featurettes: a 31-minute behind-the-scenes look and a 29-minute in-depth look at the stunts. *Ministry Of Propaganda* is home to the theatrical trailer, a TV spot, and a radio broadcast. And, last, but not least, the *Image Database* is a stills gallery.TM

previously reviewed DVD, with source element artifacts cleaned up very well. Colors are well balanced, and black levels and shadow delineation are much improved over the previous releases. Still, the age of the film is betrayed by the sharpness of the picture, as details can be slightly muddled. Edge enhancement is minor, but noticeable, on high contrast transitions.TM

Dialogue is restored very well in the Dolby® Digital and DTS® Digital Surround™ 5.1-channel encodings, although most atmospheric effects still sound boxy and unrefined. The sound mix is an improvement over the Dolby Surround encoding featured on the previous release, but true phantom imaging around the soundfield is not fully realized. Still, it features a broad, deep front stage, and adequate surround envelopment. The DTS encoding features noticeably improved fidelity over the Dolby track, although overall fidelity is still slightly limited.TM **WSR**

MGM
Catalog Number M106000
PG/1974/125 Minutes
Dolby Digital & DTS
Digital Surround 5.1
Guy Hamilton (Director)

Stars Roger Moore, Christopher Lee, Britt Ekland, Maud Adams, Hervé Villechaize, Clifton James, Bernard Lee



Mozart And The Whale

P2.5/S3.0 CRITICS' COMPOSITE 3.0

Donald (Hartnett) is a mild-mannered, bird-loving, lonely, young man, who also happens to suffer from Asperger's Syndrome (AS)—a form of autism that is characterized by deficiencies in social and communication skills. It is at an AS function that he meets and falls for Isabelle (Mitchell), a free-spirited hairdresser, who's not afraid to take fashion risks. As their romance begins to bloom, they find that their newfound love is not without pain and confusion. *Mozart And The Whale* is penned by Oscar®-winning Screenwriter Ron Bass. Special features are limited to up-front previews and commentary with Bass.TM

The anamorphically enhanced 1.85:1 DVD exhibits a plugged-up and smeared picture. Whites are slightly blown out, and blacks can look slightly gray. The images can have a hard, digital look to them, which isn't helped by the minor pixel breakup that occurs from time to time.TM

The Dolby® Digital 5.1-channel soundtrack is generally limited to the front three screen channels, with the left and right channels used for low-level atmospheric effects. Surround channels are not used often, and when they are used, it is not with great effectiveness.TM **WSR**

Sony Pictures
Catalog Number 17104
PG-13/2005/94 Minutes
Dolby Digital 5.1
Petter Naess (Director)

Stars Josh Hartnett, Radha Mitchell, Gary Cole, Sheila Kelley, Erica Leerhsen, John Carroll Lynch, Nate Mooney, Rusty Schwimmer, Robert Wisdom & Allen Evangelista



loudQUIETloud: A Film About The Pixies

P2.5/S3.0 WSR CRITIC SCORE 3.0

loudQUIETloud is *A Film About The Pixies*—a very candid look at the history of the band before, during, and after their ugly 1992 breakup. The Pixies' 2004 sold-out Reunion Tour was a massive critical and financial success, and this DVD is packed full of interviews, behind-the-scenes footage, and onstage rehearsals leading up to the event. While old wounds had not completely healed and tension still filled the air, their onstage presence was more than enough to satisfy the Pixies' ecstatic fans. Special features include eight deleted scenes and commentary with Directors Steven Cantor and Matthew Galkin and Editor Trevor Ristow.TM

As a combination of footage from many different sources, consistency in the anamorphically enhanced 1.78:1 DVD picture is understandably unfulfilling. In general, the picture is lackluster, with fine details not captured well and heavy noise in dark scenes.TM

The Dolby® Digital 5.1-channel soundtrack can be mixed and presented well, although far too often the surrounds are completely ignored. Recorded voices often sound thin and tinny, similar to what you would capture with a consumer camcorder while filming home movies. When it's good, it's okay.TM **WSR**

Music Video Distributors
Catalog Number DR-4529
NR/2006/85 Minutes
Dolby Digital 5.1
Steven Cantor & Matthew Galkin (Directors)

Stars Charles Thompson a.k.a. Black Francis, Kim Deal, Dave Lovering & Joey Santiago