

now Swirsky has penned some great power pop love songs for himself. Cheeky but not corny, one can't help but compare Swirsky's music to any Beatles composition, after all "It's Still Love" was written for Ringo Starr. *Instant Pleasure* is an instant favourite. [www.seth.com](http://www.seth.com)—**DMi**

CCCC

**AMON TOBIN** *Chaos Theory* (Ninja Tune/Outside)

Creating an original soundtrack for a wildly popular video game is, in most cases, an exercise in futility. Forced to make his sounds subservient to the game, Brazil's Amon Tobin comes up with a score that, while perfectly serviceable as an accompaniment to the action, isn't much to listen to on its own. Tobin is known for his genre-mashing sensibility and a knack for finding good homes for live instrumentation, but here every track sounds muted and interchangeable. Though it does have a convincingly paranoid atmosphere, *Chaos Theory* is not nearly chaotic enough to transcend its video game inspiration. [www.amontobin.com](http://www.amontobin.com)—**MS**

CC

**VARIOUS** *Because Of Winn-Dixie* OST (Nettwerk/EMI)

*Because Of Winn-Dixie* chronicles the story of Opal, a 10-year-old girl who moves with her preacher father to the backwater suburb of Naomi, Florida. A rootsy flick is always accompanied by a barnstompin' soundtrack and this 13-song compilation is a roots lovers reverie. *Because Of Winn-Dixie* features Vancouver's Be Good Tanyas ("Opal's Blues"), along with veteran roots artists such as Emmylou Harris ("Cabaret") and Shawn Colvin ("Fly"). Other highlights include "Won't Give In" — a hopeful anthem from New Zealand's Finn Brothers — and a whimsical, original reworking of Bobby Darin's "Splish Splash" by former Smashing Pumpkin James Iha and Fountains Of Wayne/Ivy songsmith Adam Schlesinger. [www.nettwerk.com](http://www.nettwerk.com)—**DM**

CCC

**VIA SATELLITE** *Cities Are Temples* (Loud And Clear)

Part Pink Floyd and part Radiohead, Via Satellite churn out an atmospheric journey worthy of some careful mood lighting. The band manage to do what a lot of other spacey rock bands can't — they stay original without sounding pretentious. Sparse bells and keyboards fill the disc, but crashes of fuzzed-out guitar remind the listener Via Satellite's roots are indeed rock. "Revival," one of the standout tracks, represents this formula well. Filled with tender lyrics, this slow starter builds to a rock guitar flurry, only to end with a dramatic wall of sound. Although this method is played out by the end of the disc, it's a great debut that will hopefully have an even more dramatic follow-up. [www.viasatellite.ws](http://www.viasatellite.ws)—**BB**

CCCC

**DANDI WIND** *Bait The Traps* (Bongo Beat/Outside)

Something strange is brewing in Vancouver: one hippie-raised Dandilion Wind Opaine and her trusted friend and collaborator Szam Findlay are melding visual art, performance and some accessible art-damaged electro-weird rock — and they haven't moved to Europe to do it. Completing the circle of Yoko Ono's primal vocals, Peaches' synth-rap brashness and Le Tigre's playful dance party, Wind and Findlay's EP uses razor-sharp guitars and thumping beats and clashes them with ragga rhythms, steel-cold handclaps and whatever else the duo can scavenge. Their full-length CD/DVD is out later this year, but they've already shown they do this art-music coalescence infinitely better than Fischerspooner. [www.dandiwind.com](http://www.dandiwind.com)—**BW**

CCCC

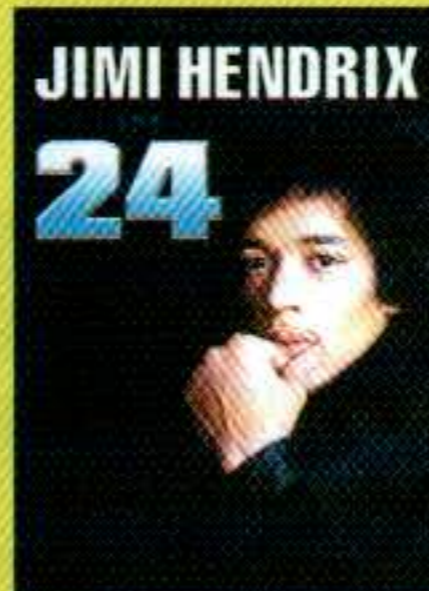
**THE WEEKEND** *Beatbox My Heartbeat* (Teenage USA/Outside)

Andrea Wasse is a tomboy in stilettos and Max Factor. On *Beatbox My Heartbeat*, the peppy new album from London, Ontario based new wave faves The Weekend, she sings about broken hearts and stupid boys as if she were the gum-chewing, vodka cooler-drinking, Duran Duran-worshipping second cousin of The Donnas' Brett Anderson. Retro-kitsch is fast approaching its sell-by date, but The Weekend's oh-so-'80s power-pop glimmers with charm and moxie. "Into The Morning" is The Muffs after an all-night Slurpee guzzling contest-cum-*Heartbeat* City listening party and "NYLA," where Wasse confesses she'd rather tongue-wrestle Brian Wilson than smooch a shaggy Ramone wannabe, is as crunchy as a jawbreaker. It all tends to blur together, but it's a smart, engaging, hook-filled blur just the same. [www.rocktheweekend.com](http://www.rocktheweekend.com)—**SE**

CCC

**Contributors:** Mike Armitage (MA), Debbie Bento (DB), Bryan Borzykowski (BB), Marc Boudignon (MB), Aaron Brophy (ABr), Elizabeth Chorney-Booth (ECB), Keith Carman (KC), Steve English (SE), Christine Estima (CE), Hannah Guy (HG), Caitlin Hotchkiss (CH), Shehzaad Jiwani (SJ), Darrin Keene (DK), Sarah Kurchak (SK), Dan Lovranski (The Mouth), David McDougall (DMc), Joel McConvey (JM), David McPherson (DM), David Missio (DMi), Brian Pascual (BP), Jason Richards (JR), Pete Richards (PR), Matt Semansky (MS), Steve Servos (SS), John Teshima (JT), Shannon Whibbs (SW), Brian Wong (BW)

**I AM TRYING TO BREAK YOUR HEART**  
A FILM ABOUT WILCO BY SAM JONES



**WILCO** *I Am Trying To Break Your Heart*  
(Plexifilm/Sonic Unyon)

Finally available domestically, this DVD is worth owning just for Sam Jones' tender and insightful documentary about the making of Wilco's *Yankee Hotel Foxtrot*, but the double disc package makes it an absolute must for any serious Wilco fan. In addition to the remarkable film (which comes with commentary from Jones and the entire band), you get over 70 minutes of extra footage (including some breathtaking black-and-white live material), a making-of featurette and so much more.—**ECB**

CCCCC

**ERASURE** *The Tank, The Swan And The Balloon*  
(Mute/EMI)

More of a decadent musical than concert, this two-disc set (with retrospective interviews) captures the glory of Erasure's 1992 Phantasmagorical Entertainment Tour. At turns delightfully swishy and garish, the live concert explodes with showy blue-beaded gladiator-style cowboy costumes, elaborate set designs and scores of dancers flitting about. It's sort of like the gay dream musical unleashed.—**HG**

CCC

**JIMI HENDRIX** *The Last 24 Hours* (DVD UK Ltd)

You can't even count on your hands the number of theories surrounding Hendrix's death. *The Last 24 Hours* throws out a unique CIA theory with documentation to back it up, but for a cool bit of new evidence about the night of his death, this DVD doesn't deliver anything substantial. You know something's shady when none of Hendrix's close friends are interviewed in the documentary.—**DBe**

CC

**JONI MITCHELL** *Woman Of Heart & Mind and Painting With Words & Music* (Eagle Eye Media)

It's impossible to watch this DVD without feeling respect for Joni Mitchell the poet, artist and musician, but you won't walk away satisfied. The biography told by journalists, fellow musicians and Mitchell herself in voice-overs drowns out songs like "Blue" and "Both Sides Now." The concert disc helps a bit, but seeing full-length performances throughout Mitchell's career would've been better.—**DMi**

CCC

**NAT KING COLE** *The World Of Nat King Cole*  
(Capitol/EMI)

Forty years after Nathaniel Adams Cole died of lung cancer, Capitol Records is releasing a celebratory film about the pioneering jazz giant. This documentary presents a chronology of well-known facts about Cole's rise from Alabama to Los Angeles highlife. With 80-plus minutes, this documentary had ample time to dig deeper.—**MA**

CCC

**THE SALADS** *Band Gone Wild* (Maui Wowie/Kindling)

This DVD clocks in at two hours and 45 minutes. It's beyond me why anyone would want to watch that much concert and video footage of one band, but fortunately there's more than enough debauchery here. Toronto's The Salads (think of a Canadian version of Sublime) have compiled all of the above with just enough pornography, beer, ass shots (theirs) and vomit to keep it interesting.—**SS**

CCC