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DVD Extra

Is that DVD you've got your eye on really worth the investment? Should you wait a few months until the "Special Edition" hits shelves? Or wait a few months after that for the "Director's Cut Definitive Edition"? DVD Extra lights

October 19 DVD roundup

By Harry Thomas on Oct 15, 10 08:00 PM | Permalink | Comments (0)

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Mainstream: "Oceans." "Please Give." "Predators."

Reissues: "Apocalypse Now," "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban," "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

TV: "Accidentally On Purpose," "The Bionic Woman," "Ironside," "The Real L Word," "Tales From The Darkside," "TAPOUT," several British TV series.

Usual rules apply: synopses are taken from the press releases, snarky commentary is extra, and preview links go to Apple.com. And just in case you were wondering, the DVD prices are the listed retail prices. You can get them cheaper if you buy at discount stores or online.

America's Music Legacy Series

MVD, 4 episodes, 120 minutes each, \$16.95 each

First four episodes of a 1985 documentary series make their DVD debut: Gospel, Country & Western, Rhythm & Blues and Rock 'n Roll. No extras listed.

Accidentally On Purpose: The DVD Edition

CBS Video, 2 discs, \$41.99

Comedy series with Jenna Elfman as a San Francisco movie critic that has a fling with a much younger man (Jon Foster) and is now pregnant. They decide to live together and raise the child, but the hijinks are just beginning. Extras: four featurettes, bloopers.

Apocalypse Now: Three Disc Full Disclosure Edition

Lionsgate, 451 minutes, 3 films, 3 discs, \$59.99 (BD debut)

Director Francis Ford Coppola's epic Vietnam film makes its BD debut and includes what the 2006 "Complete Dossier" did not: the documentary "Hearts of Darkness: A Filmmaker's Apocalypse." It does include both the original 1979 and the 2001 "Redux" versions. New extras include a 48-page booklet, photo gallery, archives from the set and keepsake case.

The Bionic Woman: Season One

Universal, 4 discs, \$39.99

This is the 1970s Lindsay Wagner version, not the attempted reboot. Includes five crossover episodes from "The Six Million Dollar Man." Extras: commentary, gag reel, featurette.

Bo Burnham: Words, Words, Words

Comedy Central/Paramount, 63 minutes, \$14.99

Stand-up special featuring Burnham, who became famous from his internet videos of him playing songs with ingenious wordplay and bad puns. Extras: two music videos, featurette.

The Crimson Wing: Mystery of the Flamingos

Disneynature, 78 minutes, G

DVD: \$29.99 BD/DVD: \$39.99

Documentary follows flamingos as they migrate. Extras: five featurettes. BD adds BD-Live capacity, pop-up facts,

The Electric Chair: A Comic's Nightmare

MVD/Wild Eye Releasing, 105 minutes, \$14.95

Victor Argo plays a shoe store manager who tries to revive his stand-up comedy career. The club he's playing at has an old

October 2010

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

5 6 7 8 9 11 12 13 14 <u>15</u> 16 18 19 20 21 <u>22</u> 23 25 26 27 28 29 30

Search

31

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About this Entry

This page contains a single entry by Harry Thomas published on October 15, 2010 8:00 PM.

October 12 DVD roundup was the previous entry in this blog.

October 26 DVD roundup is the next entry in this blog

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Video

10/28/2010 10:57 AM

electric chair on the stage, ready to shock you if you're not funny. He performs before an audience of himself as a young boy, his mother and others from his past. Art house film was recently rediscovered and restored. Extras: commentary, featurette.

Eric Clapton: The 1960s Review

Sexy Intellectual/MVD Visual, 120 minutes, \$19.95

Documentary on the 1960s part of the extraordinary career of Clapton, who was an early member of the Yardbirds, then went on to the Bluesbreakers, Cream, Blind Faith and solo projects. No extras listed.

Generator Rex: Volume 1

Cartoon Network, 10 episodes, 2 discs, \$19.97

Young super agent fights monstrous creatures created when Nanites infect a biological host, creating E.V.O.'s (Exponentially Variegated Organisms). Yeah, I'm lost already. Extras: music video, slide show.

Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban: Ultimate Edition

Warner Bros., 141 minutes, PG, 3 discs with digital copy

DVD: \$39.92 BD: \$49.99

In year 3, Harry and his friends find out that Sirius Black has escaped from the wizard's prison, Azkaban and might be out to kill Harry. Extras: "Creating the World of Harry Potter Part 3: Creatures" documentary, collector's booklet, character cards, original disc extras.

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire: Ultimate Edition

Warner Bros., 157 minutes, PG-13, 3 discs with digital copy

DVD: \$39.92 BD: \$49.99

In year 4, Harry is entered (against his will) in the Triwizard Tournament. He's also having flashes of the resurgence of the evil Lord Voldemort Extras: "Creating the World of Harry Potter Part 3: Sound & Music" documentary, collector's booklet, character cards, original disc extras.

Ironside: Season Four

Shout! Factory, 26 episodes, \$49.99

More adventures of the paraplegic cop (Raymond Burr). No extras listed.

The Jesus Guy

MVD Visual/Cinevolve Studios, 66 minutes, \$19.94

Documentary about a "barefoot evangelist" who resembles Jesus Christ, has walked through 47 states and 13 countries, is penniless and preaches like St. Francis of Assisi. No extras listed.

Jonathan Creek: The Specials

BBC Video, 406 minutes, 4 episodes, 2 discs, \$29.98

Jonathan (Alan Davies) is a magician's assistant who solves impossible mysteries on the side. No extras listed.

The Killing Machine

Anchor Bay Entertainment, 88 minutes, R, \$26.98

Dolph Lundgren is a former Soviet assassin now retired and living in America. Of course, such a man makes powerful enemies, and they tend to look up people who do them harm. Gunfire is sure to ensue. Extras: behind-the-scenes featurette.

Kylie Minogue: Rare and Unseen

Wienerworld/MVD Visual, 60 minutes, \$14.95

Documentary series focuses on the Australian pop singer, who started at age 11 as a soap opera actress and moved into music in 1987 with a remake of "Locomotion." No extras listed.

The Lost Tribe

Image Entertainment, 90 minutes, not rated, \$27.97

A group of archeologists visit a remote tropical island where the natives are less than friendly. When five friends are shipwrecked on the island, they find out why; the natives like to hunt and eat anyone who stops by. Horror is supposed to ensue. Sounds a little too much like "Predator" mixed in with a cannibalism flick. Extras: commentary, behind-the-scenes featurette.

Madeline's Christmas & Other Wintery Tales

Shout! Factory, 110 minutes, 5 episodes, \$12.99

The French boarding school student and her classmates team up for Christmas adventures with Santa and other characters. No extras listed.

A Mind To Kill, Series 2

Acorn Media, 664 minutes, 7 episodes, 4 discs, \$69.99

Philip Madoc plays Welsh DCI Noel Bain, a decent man who has to investigate the worst of humanity. Extras: cast filmographies, clip of the Welsh-language version of the series.

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2 of 4 10/28/2010 10:57 AM

The Misfortunates

Neoclassics, 108 minutes, \$19.98

1999 European art house film has a 13-year-old boy seeks to break away from the dreary existence of his father and three debauched uncles. Queasy comedy is supposed to ensue. It almost sounds like he lives in an American trailer park. Based on the autobiographical novel by Dimitri Verhulst. No extras listed.

Oceans

Disneynature, 84 minutes, G

DVD: \$29.99 BD/DVD: \$39.99

Follow up to last year's "Earth" documentary explores the oceans: swimming with tuna, dolphins, whales and more. Extras: music video, six featurettes. BD adds more featurettes, picture-in-picture mode.

Please Give

BD: 34 95

Sony, 90 minutes, R DVD: \$29.95

Kate (Catherine Keener) and Alex (Oliver Platt) plan on gutting and remodeling the apartment next to theirs as soon as their cranky renter Andra (Ann Guilbert) finally dies. Things get complicated when Kate befriends Andra's granddaughters (Rebecca Hall and Amanda Peet). Dramedy is supposed to ensue. Extras: behind-the-scenes featurette, outtakes, Q&A. BD adds BD-Live capacity.

Predators

Fox, 107 minutes, R DVD: \$29.98

BD with digital copy: \$39.99

Austin director Robert Rodriguez attempted to reboot the "Predator" franchise with this entry, which features several elite killers suddenly falling on a planet that hosts the gruesome-looking hunters. It didn't do so well with critics, but at least there are no "Aliens" in this one. Stars Adrian Brody, Alice Braga, Danny Trejo and Laurence Fishburne. Extras: commentary, featurette, three motion comics. BD adds four more motion comics, making-of documentary, two more featurettes, deleted/extended scenes, BD-Live capacity.

The Real L Word: Season One

Showtime/Paramount, 533 minutes, \$36.98

First season of Showtime reality show starring six real lesbians who live in L.A. Extras: five featurettes, photo gallery.

Sesame Street: C is for Cookie Monster

Sesame Street/Warner Bros., 45 minutes, \$14.98

Collection of songs and stories featuring everyone's favorite blue cookie-crunching monster. Extras: extra song.

Shoot The Hero!

Virgil Films & Entertainment, 82 minutes, R, \$24.99

A couple goes shopping for wedding rings and gets caught up in a botched jewel heist. Drama, comedy and car chases are supposed to ensue. Extras: six featurettes, photo gallery.

Sister Smile: The Tragic Tale of the Singing Nun

MVD Visual, 95 minutes, not rated, \$16.95

In late 1963, a Belgian nun known as Soeur Sourire (Sister Smile) topped the American pop charts with a song called "Dominique." In this biopic, director Roger Deutsch has the nun (Ginevra Colonna) leaving the convent after her song becomes a hit, forming a relationship with another ex-nun (Simona Caparrini) and eventually spiraling into a journey into hell. In Italian with English subtitles. No extras listed.

Tales From The Darkside: The Final Season

Paramount, 432 minutes, 20 episodes, 3 discs, \$36.98

Seventh and final season of horror anthology series similar to "The Twilight Zone." Extras: two featurettes. Also part of the "Complete Series Pack" for \$129.98.

TAPOUT: The Complete Series

Image Entertainment, 892 minutes, 5 discs, \$29.98

Reality show where the TAPOUT crew travels around the U.S. in search of promising Mixed Martial Arts fighters (read: raw meat willing to get their butts kicked on cable television). Each episode follows the training of one fighter, culminating in a MMA event. No extras listed.

20th Century With Mike Wallace: Politics and Presidents

Athena, 470 minues, 10 episodes, 3 discs, \$49.99

"60 Minutes" correspondent Mike Wallace takes a look at the biggest political moments of the 20th century, ranging from the McCarthy Red Scare to the Clinton scandals. Extras: 16 page viewer's guide, updates on political figures.

Wallander: Faceless Killers/The Man Who Smiled/The Fifth Woman

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3 of 4 10/28/2010 10:57 AM

BBC Video, 270 minutes, 3 episodes, 2 discs

DVD: \$34.98 BD: \$39.98

Kenneth Branagh is the title character, a hard-bitten detective determined to solve the murder cases he's handed even at the expense of his health and family life. No extras listed.

Tags: BD, Blu-ray, DVD, roundup

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4 of 4