



MOVIE REVIEW



# Ed Koch Movie Reviews

By Edward I. Koch



## Movie Review: "The Trip" (+)

This British film, based on a BBC2 television series, is filled with marvelous banter.

Steve (Steve Coogan) is hired by a London newspaper to review several restaurants in northern England. Because his girlfriend, Mischa (Margo

Stilley), is in the U.S. pursuing her acting career and unable to join him, he invites his friend, Rob (Rob Brydon), to travel along. When Steve tells him that the paper will pay for everything plus a stipend which he will share 60-40, Rob, a happily married man with an infant, agrees to go.

I immediately expected a

road trip with lots of adventures to follow but, in fact, the picture is almost entirely made of up of conversations between the two friends and their efforts to outdo one another in their word games and jousting. They are both wonderful impersonators and often mimic British actors like Michael Caine, Sean Connery, Ian McKellen and Benny Hill.

My own recollection is that American road-trip and male-bonding films are generally more exciting than British movies of the same genre, but this one will charm the shoes off your feet, although there are many droll moments. Manohla Dargis gave "The Trip" a superb review in the Times. I wouldn't go that far, but it is definitely worth seeing.

## Movie Review: "Submarine" (-)

The main character in this coming-of-age film is Oliver Tate (Craig Roberts), a 15-year-old Welsh boy who lives with his family in a seaside town.

Oliver appears to be bullied by his schoolmates. He becomes

infatuated with a more mature classmate, Jordana (Yasmin Paige), who is clearly the more aggressive when it comes to their first kiss.

The Welsh country and seaside scenes are very appealing. However, Oliver's problems had little impact on me, and I found the film to be pointless. Adolescents would probably

identify with Oliver and Jordana and enjoy their emotional ups and downs, but I did not.

The *Times* reviewer A.O. Scott and I are on the same page regarding this picture, he perhaps liking it a bit more than I. He wrote: "Submarine is an important film. Watch it with respect," an introductory note from this peculiar,

engaging young man suggests. After obeying the second part of that message, I can't quite agree with the first, which I doubt was meant entirely in earnest. Significance can be overrated, and *Submarine* makes the most of his whimsical triviality."

Watch Ed Koch's Movie Reviews at [www.MayorKoch.com](http://www.MayorKoch.com).

MUSIC

# THE SOUNDS OF BLUE

By Bob Putignano

*Solid Live Set, guests Trucks, Haynes, Robert Randolph, Ivan Neville and more!"*

Soulive "Bowlive-Live at the Brooklyn Bowl" DVD MVD Visual

What a great concept having this soul-funk band Soulive in residency for two weeks at the newly opened Brooklyn Bowl, and bringing in a bevy of guests sitting in. Guests range from hip-hop stars Questlove (who's excellent,) and Rahzel, to more roots oriented names like Derek Trucks with Susan Tedeschi, Warren Haynes, Ivan Neville, Oteil and Kofi Burbridge, plus Robert Randolph.

the late nineties, they have ten albums credited to their name, and five (raw) live recordings that they released as well.

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Soulive is a rocking soul-jazz trio with Eric Krasno's guitar, (and the two brothers Evans,) Alan on drums, and Neal on keyboards. Soulive has been around since



## MUSIC

## Soulive "Bowlive-Live at the Brooklyn Bowl"

*Continued from page 9*

The many highlighted guests include the very talented vocalist Nigel Hall who nicely tackles JB's "Soul Power," and "Give It Up, Or Turnit a Loose." Hall stays on with Ivan Neville for a cool rendition of "Jesus Children of America" that prances to the mode of Sly Stone's "If You Want Me To Stay." The other brothers: Oteil and Kofi Burbridge set a mesmerizing groove on Oteil's "Butter Biscuit." A glazed eyed Robert Randolph talks backstage about the merits of Soulive, (but in one segment)

is only given a short (one minute) spot performing Stevie Ray Vaughan's gorgeous "Lenny." Tedeschi and Trucks solidly cover an extremely soulful take of King Curtis' "Soul Serenade" with lyrics. Warren Haynes tears down the house ala Albert King on "Born Under a Bad Sign." Which (by the way;) was authored by the Stax duo of William Bell and Booker T. Jones, where Albert cut it at Stax.

Even with all of the guests, let's not take away from the virtues of Soulive, Alan Evans is a killer drummer, Krasno guitar is spot on

throughout and shows how wide ranging his playing is, and Neal Evans is monstrous on various keyboards, and handles the bass parts with ease and creativity.

The overall production values of this DVD is good, but could have been better, as the only audio offered is via Dolby Digital 2.0 stereo, but it does sound clear and punchy. The widescreen picture is sharp and the cameraman also provided some interesting close ups during most of the important and fascinating solos. This DVD also has an extremely nice feature, that being that it can be watched in two modes, "Play Movie (With Interviews,)"

and "Play Movie (Without Interviews.)" DVD producers take notes!

Fans of soul, funk, jazz and blues will enjoy this unique genre stretching video. Kudos to those involved for making this DVD, they obviously put forward a lot of good effort getting all of the guests together, and none of it sounds like a train-wreck! But there's one piece missing; there's no internal booklet included, and the only informational notes derive from the outer box, no track listing either, what's up with that?

Bob Putignano [www.SoundsofBlue.com](http://www.SoundsofBlue.com)

## COMMUNITY

## News &amp; Notes from Northern Westchester



By MARK JEFFERS

The Jeffers family thoroughly enjoyed the Fox Lane High School graduation last Wednesday evening at

Caramoor. The speeches were thought provoking and memorable, with a special shout out to Salutatorian Matthew Karle, who made us laugh and to Sophia Benhammou who brought tears to our eyes with her beautiful and inspiring rendition of Every Time We Say Goodbye. Even the rain afterwards didn't dampen the great spirit that is Fox Lane High School. Congrats again to all the area schools and the class of 2011...now it's time for us to graduate to another edition of "News and Notes..."

And speaking of Caramoor, how about some Pop, Patriots and Fireworks on July 3rd? A celebration of our country's birthday with symphonic music and fireworks featuring the Orchestra of St. Luke's. Give them a call at 914-232-1252.

Our good friend and "The Clubhouse" host Brian Crowell has written a very entertaining book called "Slice Free

Gold," a light hearted information packed book on learning to improve your golf game. It may take more than a book for my game, but it is a great start. For more information check out the website [www.slicefreegolf.com](http://www.slicefreegolf.com).

Registration for the fall 2011 term of Mom's Day Out, which is a program designed for separation, socialization, sharing and fun for toddlers is underway at Bet Torah Nursery School on Smith Avenue in Mount Kisco. For details call 914-666-7595.

In an effort to meet their budget deficit, the Bedford Hills Free Library is leasing commuter parking spaces behind the library on Griffin Avenue. These spaces are available to non-residents and are in a very convenient location, just a two minute walk (no hills!) to the Bedford Hills Train Station, an excellent commute to NYC. \$1,250.00 per year, available July 1st, 2011. For more information call the Bedford Hills Free Library (914) 666-6472.

The gang over at Grand Prix NY is offering a driver education-program to

Westchester teens 15 and older on July 2nd, call 914-358-3613 for details.

The Peekskill Farmers' Market is now open for the season, so go out there and buy yourself a "farmer," just kidding...the market is open every Saturday 8:30am to 2pm on Bank Street.

Not sure what to make of this... Bedford's Martha Stewart has added to her media empire with, believe it or not, her own comic book, "Female Force: Martha Stewart." Maybe, I'll start my own "Male Force, Mark," or maybe not...

The Hammond Museum has a new exhibit featuring diverse works by the member artists of the New York Society of Women Artists entitled "Heart of the Artist," for more information call 914-669-5033.

Registration has begun for The Country Academy of Dance in Yorktown Heights; the summer session runs July 5th through August 29th. Learn Tap, Jazz and my favorite Hip-Hop; call 914-245-8606 for more information.

Are you still looking for something to do with your scoundrels this weekend? You should consider sailing down to Philipsburg Manor in Tarrytown for the historic re-enactment of Pirates on the Hudson from Saturday July 2nd to Monday July 4th. The Siege of Sleepy

Hollow features musical pirates, belly dancers and scallywags of all sorts bringing mayhem and merriment! There will be feasting available prepared by Tastefully Yours and grog provided by the Captain Lawrence Brewery. Tickets are \$7 to \$16 and must be purchased in advance. Call (914) 631-8200 or visit the Historic Hudson website.

This idea almost makes me wish I still had someone in diapers!... The Katonah Museum of Art is inviting new parents, grandparents and caregivers to engage, connect and explore the ideas inspired by their latest exhibition "Double Solitaire". These *Stroller Tours* are designed for adults with children under 2 years old on Friday mornings July 15th, August 12th, and September 16th from 9:15 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Call the museum at 914 232-9555 for more info.

As July 4th approaches, let's take some time to honor and thank our brave armed forces all over the world, who everyday risk their lives to protect us and give this great country our freedom... Happy Independence Day to our soldiers, their families and to all of you... see you next week!

If you have an event or story you would like mentioned in this column, please <mailto:marsar@optonline.net>.

## A HIGHER POWER

## A Delightful Afternoon with the IRS



REV. JAMES L. SNYDER

I do not get as many letters as I used to, which may be due to the Internet or to the fact I have fewer literate friends

than I used to. I still like getting a letter, as long as it is a letter and not a bill. Bill used to write me but he was always asking for money.

I did get a letter this past week. It

was unexpected but it was from a family member. Good old Uncle Sam sent me an epistle this past week. I was anxious to see how he was getting along. I hear all these rumors, you know, but it is good to hear straight from the donkey's mouth.

When I opened the letter it was not a personal letter. It was addressed to me, all right, and it had to do with personal matters, of a sort. But he was not chatting

about what he was up to these days. Rather, it was a request for money.

It seems that way back in the year of our Lord 2003, there was a mix-up in my tax return and somehow I still owed the IRS money. My attitude was, let bygones be bygones. That is ancient history. Let us just get along.

There was a phone number on the letter inviting me to call. It was right after