

DVDS

King of Oak Street

TIPITINA'S



King of Oak Street tells the story of renowned New Orleans performance painter and art gallery owner **Randy "Frenchy" Frechette**. The

72-minute film—narrated by **John Sinclair** and directed by **George Hamilton** and **Andrew Scott**—set out to document his painting career as well as the sights and sounds of New Orleans but turned into a two-plus year labor of love after the project changed directions and funding nearly ran out. They kicked off the filming right after Frenchy was named "King of Oak Street" during The Big Easy's famous Mid-Summer Mardi Gras neighborhood parade in August 2005—the city's last pre-Katrina parade—and later on, the evening took a turn for the worst as the revelers got word that the hurricane was descending on them. The documentary also

chronicles Frenchy's early years in his hometown of Boston with candid conversations about his family and hardships that he encountered along the way. Though the film was screened at Tipitina's and at various film festivals during the past few years, it's only just now become available to the public on DVD, with a portion of the proceeds going to the Tipitina's Foundation.

Amy Jacques

Santana

Greatest Hits: Live

at Montreux EAGLE ROCK



The title may say *Greatest Hits*—and they're here, from "Black Magic Woman" to "Evil Ways" to "Smooth"—but this full-length **Santana** gig taped at the Swiss fest last year is anything but a live best of album. Minutes in, **Carlos Santana** deviates from the script and unleashes a

tirade of dissonance worthy of early '70s Miles Davis, then, not long after, he offers up his take on the AC/DC classic "Back in Black." If anything, the current incarnation is looser, freer and more experimental than ever. **Derek Trucks**, **Susan Tedeschi** and Santana's bride **Cindy Blackman** make cameos but this band doesn't need any help—it's one of the most propulsive units that Santana has led. In one of several spoken interludes, Carlos talks about "the transformation of consciousness." It's a subject that he knows well—and judging by this sizzler of a set, he's still doing just that. *Jeff Tamarkin*

Dinosaur Jr.

Bug Live at 9:30 Club: In the Hands of the Fans MVD



Shock, awe and six-string shrapnel shower the sticky crowd at Washington, D.C.'s 9:30 Club with **Dinosaur Jr.**'s

distorted sparks. In their new fan-shot concert film DVD recorded in 2011, the legendary grunge trio perform their hallowed 1988 album *Bug* in its entirety. **Henry Rollins**, another 1980s icon, introduces the band and interviews them in the bonus features. For all of their grey, chunkier builds, the three musicians have lost little edge from their late '80s prime—and they prove it here in sustained bursts of ragged, blessed-out glory. Remember, Nirvana used to open for these guys, though Dino Jr. always shared more with Neil Young in their penchant for playing ramshackle, sludge nuggets. From their crunchy credo, "Freak Scene," to the closing "Keep the Glove," **J Mascis'** stoked Jazzmaster riffing lifts **Murph** and **Lou Barlow** into inspired territory. With Hiwatt amps cranked to 11, Dinosaur Jr. remind the raucous crowd—and us—just who once were the noise-kings of melodic grunge. *Greg Gaston*



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