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New reviews of other videos not in the print version of Video Librarian.

Rating system: ★ = poor, ★★ = fair, ★★★ = good, ★★★★ = excellent

K = Preschool-Kindergarten E = Elementary (grades 1-3)

I = Intermediate (grades 4-6) J = Jr. High (grades 7-8)

H = High School (grades 9-12) C = Colleges & Universities

P = Public Libraries

Updated February 26, 2013

Spend Well, Live Rich with Michelle Singletary ★★★(2011) 60 min. DVD: \$24.99 (\$54.95 w/PPR). PBS Video (tel: 800-344-3337, web: www.pbs.org). Closed captioned. ISBN: 978-1-60883-632-1.

In this PBS-aired documentary, *Washington Post* financial advice columnist Michelle Singletary speaks to a small live audience about her seven "money mantras," including "Is this a need or a want?" and "Cash is better than credit." As in her same-titled book, Singletary's touchstone is her grandmother, Big Mama, who managed with an annual income of \$13,000 to raise five children and pay off a car loan and mortgage before she retired. Singletary encourages people to acquire only what they can afford to buy with cash, invest in things that will appreciate in value,

consider their core values and relate them to even small expenditures, recognize that minor expenses quickly add up, and avoid investment traps. Singletary argues that wealth means having access to one's basic material needs, a job, loved ones, and a home, and asks viewers to value time, family, and spirituality over material objects. While her advice on living within one's means offers nothing new, Singletary's friendly, empathetic manner and sense of humor lend impact to her presentation. DVD extras include a 20-minute Q&A with the audience. Recommended. Aud: H, C, P. (*M. Puffer-Rothenberg*)

Questions & Comments

vidlib@videoliberalian.com**Beijing Punk ★★**

(2012) 78 min. DVD: \$14.95. Music Video Distributors (avail. from most distributors).



The concept of Shaun Jefford's rockumentary is more interesting than the result, although it does boast a sense of present-at-the-creation street cred. On the eve of the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, a small punk-rock movement is active in the Chinese metropolis (mostly centered around a rock club and record labels managed by Western expats). The filmmaker and his small crew interview these rebel rockers—from bands such as Snapline, P.K. 14, The Gar, Joyside, and Demerit—who typically reject the 12-hour robotic factory ethic of their countrymen and glory in the seediness of their downscale Tongzhou neighborhood. The music is an acquired taste (and the tech credits are pretty rough, even during non-concert interviews)—although one band, Hedgehog, has a bigger fan base thanks to males gawping at its rarity: a girl drummer. Arch-punk Lei Jun, of the veteran combo Mi San Dao, says he makes more money at music than his father earns as an eye doctor. While sometimes drunk and defiant, these "punks" still have a ways to go before reaching Western-level decadence. Not interviewed here: neither conservative Chinese authorities who barely tolerate

the punks, or anyone with much musicology perspective. An oddball entry for Asian-studies and world-culture shelves, this is optional. Aud: C, P. (*C. Cassidy*)

Kingdom of the Himalayas ★★1/2(2011) 60 min. DVD: \$29.95. Worldwide Academic Media (tel: 866-691-1996, web: www.waprograms.com). PPR. ISBN: 978-1-59163-955-8.

An English-language dub of a Spanish documentary that