



## TRAILERS

### What's coming on DVD/Blu-ray

**The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant.** 2 discs. color. 124+ min. In German w/English subtitles. Rainer Werner Fassbinder, dist. by Criterion Collection. Jan. 2015. DVD ISBN 9781604659405. \$29.95; 1-disc Blu-ray ISBN 9781604659399. \$39.95. DRAMA  
A fashion world romance.

**Boyhood.** 2 discs. color. 164+ min. Richard Linklater, dist. by Paramount. Jan. 2015. DVD UPC 032429208668. \$29.99; Blu-ray/DVD combo UPC 032429208644. \$39.99. Rated: R. DRAMA  
Growing up on film; a unique event.



**Dinosaur 13.** color. 105+ min. Todd Douglas Miller, dist. by Lionsgate. Jan. 2015. DVD UPC 031398208808. \$19.98; Blu-ray & digital UPC 031398208839.

\$19.99. SDH subtitles. Rated: PG. SCI  
A bone to pick with T. rex.

**La ciénaga.** color. 102+ min. In Spanish w/English subtitles. Lucrecia Martel, dist. by Criterion Collection. Jan. 2015. DVD ISBN 9781604659429. \$29.95; Blu-ray ISBN 9781604659412. \$39.95. DRAMA  
A debut that made headlines.

**On Golden Pond.** color. 150+ min. Mark Rydell, dist. by Shout Factory. Jan. 2015. Blu-ray UPC 826663155839. \$24.99. DRAMA  
Casting coup: Henry and Jane Fonda.

**The Palm Beach Story.** b/w. 88+ min. Preston Sturges, dist. by Criterion Collection. Jan. 2015. DVD ISBN 9781604659443. \$29.95; Blu-ray ISBN 9781604659436. \$39.95. COMEDY  
Joel McCrea weds Claudette Colbert.

**The Sword of Doom.** b/w. 120+ min. In Japanese w/English subtitles. Kihachi Okamoto, dist. by Criterion Collection. Jan. 2015. Blu-ray ISBN 9781604659382. \$39.95. DRAMA  
Swordplay in Japan.

**Wetlands.** color. 109+ min. In German w/English subtitles. David Wnendt, dist. by Strand Releasing. Jan. 2015. DVD UPC 712267340224. \$27.99; Blu-ray UPC 712267340231. \$32.99. COMEDY  
Based on the novel by Charlotte Roche.—Bette-Lee Fox

serve this film, *The Lumberjack*. He documented his efforts in a movie of his own called *When You Wore a Tulip and I Wore a Big Red Rose*, one of two feature-length films included on Flicker Alley's *We're in the Movies*. *Palace of Silents* tells the surprisingly dramatic story of Los Angeles's Silent Movie Theater, a commercial house that survived for more than 50 years despite a repertory exclusively of silent films. **VERDICT** *We're in the Movies*, which includes as bonus features *The Lumberjack* itself, two other "local talent films," and three short ethnographic films, is likely too much of a hodgepodge to appeal to casual movie buffs, but hard-core cinephiles will delight in its obscurity.—Andrew Horbal, Univ. of Maryland Lib., College Park

**Signs and Secrets: The World of Umberto Eco.** color. 42 min. Gero von Boehm & Riccardo de Sanctis, Interscience Film Heidelberg, dist. by Kultur, www.kultur.com. 2014. DVD ISBN 9780769750910. \$19.99. LIT

Umberto Eco (b. 1932) seems able to have it both ways. Long a highly respected academic, his novels, especially 1981's erudite *The Name of the Rose*, generated the kind of worldwide popularity to provide him with a private island, four other residences, and a 40,000-volume library (which includes a collection of inaccurate scientific works). The attraction here is just to listen to Eco (in translation) hold forth on a variety of topics. He discusses the city as a marketplace and his love of walking in cities, especially Paris and New York. He talks about his lower-middle-class origins, his education, his ongoing intellectual pursuits, and his work in semiotics. His description of his 1994 novel, *Island of the Day Before*, segues into his love of archaic scientific instruments. His most recent obsession is the quest for a perfect language. **VERDICT** The topics here obviously ramble, covering a vast range from popular culture to academic opacity, but the time the viewer spends in the presence of greatness is well worth it. Recommended for fans of the author.—John Hiatt, formerly with Iowa City P.L.

**Devo: The Men Who Make the Music; Butch Devo & the Sundance Gig.** color & b/w. 144+ min. Mark Mothersbaugh & Chuck Statler, dist. by MVDvisual, 800-888-0486; www.mvdb2b.com. DVD UPC 760137605591. \$14.95. MUSIC

Previously only available as a long out-of-print 1981 VHS tape, quirky new wave icons Devo's first movie is finally issued on DVD. Serving as a companion piece to the recently released career-spanning video compilation *The Complete Truth About De-Evolution*, the film stitches together music videos, raw and energetic live performances

from a 1978 tour, and sketches from a fittingly wacky, low-budget satire of the music business that doesn't make much sense and features stiff acting from group leader Mothersbaugh and jumpsuit-clad bandmates but is nevertheless a lot of fun. The disc includes a well-recorded 1996 concert film featuring an older and more polished but still weird Devo performing a surprising set of mostly arcane early tracks, reworked versions of a few well-known songs, and a rousing rendition of signature smash hit "Whip It." **VERDICT** This entertaining snapshot of two key periods in Devo's history—first when they were on the cusp of stardom and then when they blazed a comeback trail—is a reminder of just how innovative and musically adept these fun-loving oddballs are and how wildly entertaining and unpredictable their concerts can be. Recommended to all pop music enthusiasts.—Douglas King, Univ. of South Carolina Lib., Columbia

**Great Women Singers of the 20th Century.** 3 discs. color & b/w. 172 min. Gene A. Davis, dist. by Kultur, www.kultur.com. 2014. DVD ISBN 9780769749556. \$29.99. MUSIC

These discs present a program of live performances each by Sarah Vaughn (1924–90), Chaka Khan (b. 1953), and Nancy Wilson (b. 1934), women who found fame early on and sustained longtime, successful careers. Khan sings at the intimate Blue Note in New York with a top-notch musical group squeezed onstage. The sound mix and recording are surprisingly poor; it takes a lot of messin' up to have Khan sound anything but stellar. There is no presence or even direction in the audio, which is more than unfortunate since Kahn is an incredibly versatile singer, and her set selections are impressive. The jerky and unimaginative camera work is only slightly better. Wilson, live at Blues Alley in Washington, DC, has more dynamic range in the audio, but it, too, is subpar. Known throughout her career as Sassy, the incomparable Vaughn is filmed in concert in Stamford, CT. The audio is obviously being recorded via the less-than-professional-grade cameras. Audience reactions and applause are clearer and louder than the singer herself. **VERDICT** These great ladies deserve a better-filmed and -recorded release than this set. Not recommended.—Gerald A. Notaro, emeritus, Univ. of South Florida Lib., St. Petersburg

**Wagner's Jews.** color. 55+ min. Hilan Warsaw, Overtone Films, dist. by First Run Features, 800-229-8575; www.firstrunfeatures.com. 2014. DVD UPC 720229916219. \$24.95; public performance \$295. Closed-captioned. MUSIC/HIST  
This thoughtful documentary explores