



The Decemberists

the mood of each song, emoting hope and pain. It harkened back to the harmonies John once made with Paul McCartney.

Spacey summed the night up perfectly with the statement: "John may've been a Liverpoolian by birth, but he was a New Yorker by choice." Lennon, both as a Beatle and as a solo artist, embodied the identity of New Yorkers past and present through his music: rhythmically driven, wearing his heart on his sleeve and always evolving.—Matthew Allen

The Beatles

Magical Mystery Tour Memories DVD
(MVD Visual)

Magical Mystery Tour Memories is a fun, if hardly informative, hour of remembrance from several of the Beatles' inner circle and others associated with the chaotic *Magical Mystery Tour* film. As former Beatles press officer Tony Barrow jovially says of Paul's brainchild (it was shot without any discernible script save McCartney's handwritten, segmented circle of vague ideas): "The film was meant to establish Paul as a film producer and keep the Beatles working." Let's just say that it certainly kept them occupied and producing some great music.

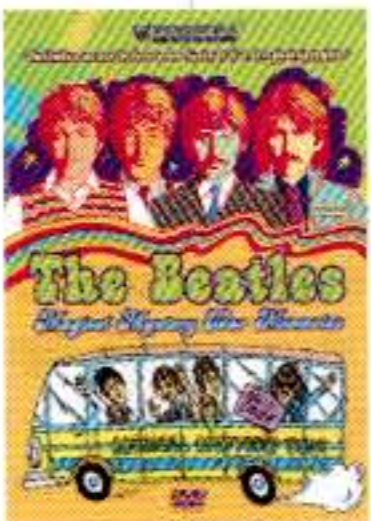
Not that we hear any of that great music. Instead, we're exposed to middling cover instrumentals that bear no

resemblance to the heart of the original soundtrack. We are, however, treated to the effervescent Victor Spinetti—who starred in all the Beatles films except **Yellow Submarine**—as he narrates over the shenanigans and rare footage of the lads at play. Among other voices include longtime Beatles confidante Tony Bramwell, Paul's brother Michael, Spencer Davis, Neil Innes and choreographer Dame Peggy Spencer.
—Mike Jurkovic

Johnny Winter

Johnny Winter Live Through the '70s DVD
(MVD Visual)

With his distinctive growling vocals and high-octane guitar style, Johnny Winter has spent his career earning admiration from blues and rock fans alike. The performances included on **Live Through the '70s** showcase both these sides of Johnny's music.



Blues fans will love the footage of Winter accompanied by Tommy Shannon and Uncle John Turner, the trio featured on **The Progressive Blues Experiment**. A powerful slow blues, "Be Careful of the Fool," and a turbo-charged version of "Talk to Your Daughter" are two of the DVD's strongest performances from Winter, Shannon and Turner. Another treat, the 1974 footage of Johnny performing Muddy Waters' "Walking Through the

Park," features Winter with Phil Guy, Dr. John and Junior Wells.

For those who remember Johnny Winter as an arena rocker decked out in capes and bellbottoms, the performances of "Boney Maroney" and "Rock and Roll Hoochie Koo" will not disappoint. In addition to the fine music, the flashback-inducing clothing and special effects during these segments are sure to delight fans of '70s' nostalgia.

One high point is "Key to the Highway," with Johnny accompanied only by bassist Randy Jo Hobbs. Eschewing the distortion and chorus effects usually a part of his sound, Winter coaxes a clean, down-home tone from his trademark Gibson Firebird. It's a performance that shows Johnny Winter is as much a traditional bluesman as a rocker, and its inclusion on *Live Through the '70s* presents a full picture of a multi-faceted musician. Johnny's many longtime fans will definitely want to add this DVD to their collection.
—Jon Kleinman

Pannonica de Koenigswarter

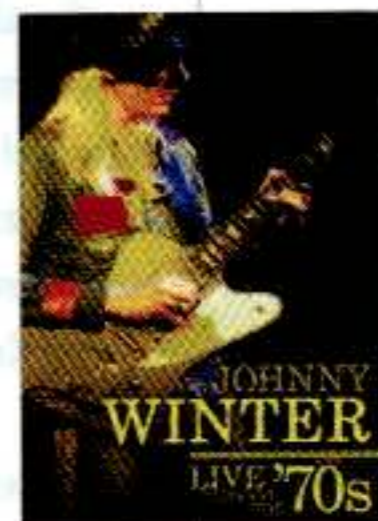
Three Wishes: An Intimate Look at Jazz Greats Book
(Abrams Image)

Jazz musicians never had a better friend than the Baroness Pannonica de Koenigswarter, and few people had

better opportunities than she to capture such casual and revealing images of jazz masters. **Three Wishes** derives its title from one of de Koenigswarter's pet projects of the 1960s: recording the responses of jazz players to the question, "If you were given three wishes to be instantly granted, what would they be?"

The names of the 300 performers she approached with this query include superstars such as Louis Armstrong, Miles Davis and Duke Ellington, but the exceptionally wide range of musicians supplying the answers reproduced in this book reveals how deeply de Koenigswarter was involved in the jazz scene. Indeed, its text is of enormous interest to jazz cognoscenti who can relate the tersest of responses to what they already know about the musicians' personalities and art.

The baroness' candid photos are something else entirely. These are truly thrilling discoveries for jazz nuts, but the freshness and immediacy of her color prints and sometimes deteriorated black and white Polaroids can be appreciated by the general public. In comparison to the photographs of another jazz insider, Milt



Hinton, these images do not derive their magic from any singular photographic talent on de Koenigswarter's part. Rather, these snapshots are special because of her ability to capture unaffected images of jazz masters like Art Blakey, John Coltrane, Dexter Gordon and, most especially, Thelonious Monk, both at ease and in performance. Her portrait of a beaming Sonny Rollins seated behind the wheel of his car is a particularly arresting image of a jazz great, but it is also a record of the undying affection jazz musicians had for the Baroness Pannonica de Koenigswarter.—Cliff Preiss

The Decemberists

Terminal 5, New York, NY
Light years from the awkward beret munching of their fellow hyper-literates, Portland's the Decemberists confound an easy definition of indie rock. In the space of four albums and a trio of EPs, they've