

SIZZLING U.K. DOCUMENTARY OF THE WEEK: Klaus Voorman — Composing the Beatles Songbook: Lennon and McCartney 1957-1965 (MVD Visual/Pride DVD)::

Retrospective music videos are a dime a dozen these days, and almost all of them rely on know-nothing wankers spewing half-baked opinions over a slew of still photographs you've seen a million times before — but not this time. Revolver album cover designer and Plastic Ono Band member Voorman is just one of many Fab Four friends and fans featured in this informative 80-minute exploration into who did what and why when it came to writing Beatle songs. It's all illustrated by a ream of rare licensed mint condition footage of the Fabs playing in Europe and Japan, as well as film of the contemporaries who influenced them. The bad news is that they don't include footage of Lennon's shameful spaz act from the unreleased Ed Sullivan dress rehearsal show in Miami. The good news is that they found another appalling live example of him doing it, filmed somewhere else!

John Lennon knows your name and I've seen his!

- Jeffrey Morgan