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YOUR LIFE - ENTERTAINMENT

Friday, Nov. 28, 2008

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Pick up these defining moments in punk, rock, funk

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• HHH

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This late October CD continues the great series of recordings from CBGB's with Living Colour recorded live at a benefit for the now-closed institution. Fronted by Corey Glover's power-packed vocals and Vernon Reid's dazzling guitar, they're as impressive as they were years ago opening for the Rolling Stones... when they're doing songs rather than rapping over guitar noise. In other words, "Open Letter to a Landlord," "Glamour Boys," "Time's Up" and "Cult of Personality" are the highlights. Get your copy locally or at the MVD Web site.

'Composing the Beatles Songbook: Lennon & McCartney 1966-1970,' (MVDvisual,

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This Nov. 25 DVD is somewhat academic in nature, but the quality of the songs composed by John Lennon and Paul McCartney deserves this type of consideration. In 1966, The Beatles had reached their biggest turning point, having spent the previous year touring as well as recording the adventurous Rubber Soul, and knew that creative progress was needed to keep their lofty status. The albums that followed (Revolver, Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, "The White Album," Abbey Road, and Let It Be) plus several groundbreaking non-album single releases, didn't disappoint.

Thoughtful commentary gives insight into how Paul and John continued writing on parallel paths for awhile, and then began veering away from each other after manager Brian Epstein's death. The Magical Mystery Tour soundtrack, released in Britain as two EPs, saw less creative involvement from John. Get your copy locally or at the above Web site for more.

Ricky Flake is a former punk rocker, and music fan who lives in Biloxi. Reach him at lobotomy3857@bellsouth.net

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