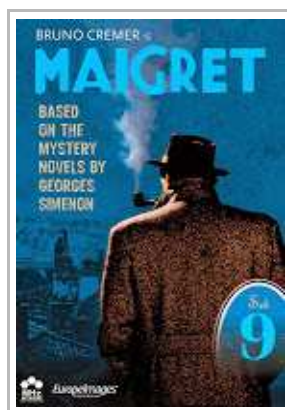


way the visuals are flawless, and the surround sound pummels. Extras are interviews with backstage and behind-the-scenes crew.

***Portnoy, Sheehan, McAlpine and Sherinian—Live in Tokyo***  
(Eagle Vision)

Supergroup PSMS—drummer Mike Portnoy, bassist Billy Sheehan, guitarist Tony McAlpine, keyboardist Derek Sherinian—played an incendiary concert in Tokyo last fall: the 90-minute show contains more shredding than one would think possible. With fretboard wizards Sheehan and McAlpine on stage, even fiery drummer Portnoy cedes the spotlight, but for this cohesive unit, tunes like McAlpine’s “The Stranger” and Sheehan’s “Shy Boy” (from his Talas days in Buffalo) sound as fresh as ever. The Blu-ray image is good, the sound even better; a behind the scenes featurette is the lone extra.



**DVDs of the Week**

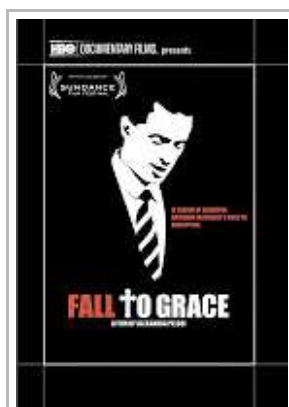
***Detective Montalbano—Episodes 23-26***  
***and Maigret—Set 9***  
(MHZ Networks)

In four more episodes of the Italian procedural series, *Detective Montalbano*, the good cop (the wonderful Luca Zingaretti) tracks down assorted bad guys while juggling a complicated personal life filled with his own demons and those of his long-distance girlfriend (Katarina Bohm, dubbed into Italian by Claudia Catani). In the latest—and last—set of five

*Maigret* mysteries, Georges Simenon’s great detective (a superbly cast Bruno Cremer) moves between Paris and the provincial countryside to solve the usual crimes: too bad these are the final episodes from the long-running French TV series.

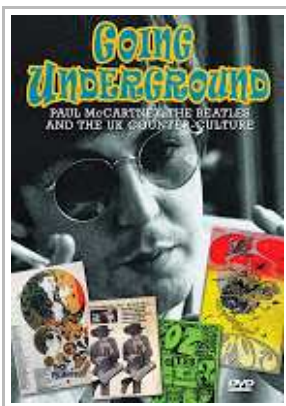
***Fall to Grace***  
(HBO/Warner Archive)

The remarkable about-face of disgraced former New Jersey governor Jim McGreevey—who resigned in 2004 amid a sex scandal where he admitted to being homosexual—is recounted in Alexandra Pelosi’s breezy profile. It shows that McGreevey, who since has studied to become an Episcopal priest, has now reenergized his personal and public lives to become a thoughtful Samaritan to jailed women who want (and need) a second chance.



***Going Underground***  
(Pride)

In this sometimes plodding but fascinating documentary, the ‘60s avant-garde scene is seen through the prism of the Beatles, and Paul McCartney in particular: contrary to popular belief, he led the other

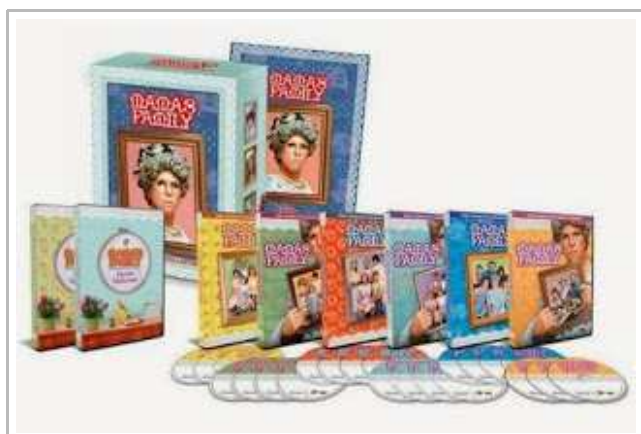
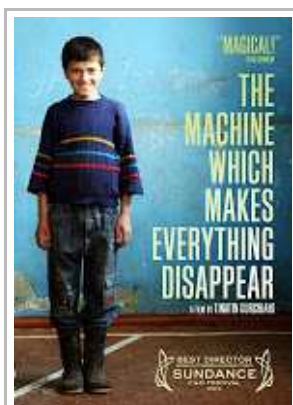


three on the underground ride long before John met Yoko. Interviews with people who were there, vintage footage of the Fab Four and others vital to the scene (like the Beat poets, jazz innovators and Syd Barrett and Pink Floyd) are featured in this informative chronicle. Extras include bonus interviews.

### ***The Machine Which Makes Everything Disappear***

#### **(Icarus)**

In this somber documentary, Georgian director Tinatin Gurchiani puts out a call for people who want to be in the movies, and the “screen tests” she conducts are illuminating in their commentary on how many Georgians (mostly, but not exclusively, young people) are desperate to escape to the fantasy world created by Hollywood to leave their sad lives behind. Some of those interviewed are also shown in their everyday lives filled with heartbreak, survival and a little hope. The lone extra is a director interview.



### ***Mama's Family—The Complete Series*** **(StarVista/Time-Life)**

In one of the most inspired TV spin-offs of all-time, Vicki Lawrence's Mama got her own sitcom after getting non-stop laughs in her *Carol Burnett Show* sketches, and if the show never reached the heights of hilarity of those skits—stretching from 10 to 25 minutes and keeping character and narrative arcs going does that—it showed that, at its best, it was as inspired as any comedy on network TV. In addition to Lawrence, the incredible cast featured, as Mama's daughters, none other than Carol Burnett and Betty White.

What makes this complete series boxed set such a must for any fan is that it not only packages all 130 episodes from the series' six-season run on 24 DVDs, but there are voluminous extras. A cast reunion roundtable, new cast/crew interviews, a conversation between Burnett and Lawrence, Lawrence interviewing Mama via split-screen, the 1982 TV movie *Eunice*, and sketches from *The Carol Burnett Show*. This set can only be purchased through the website [MamasFamilyDVDs.com](http://MamasFamilyDVDs.com).