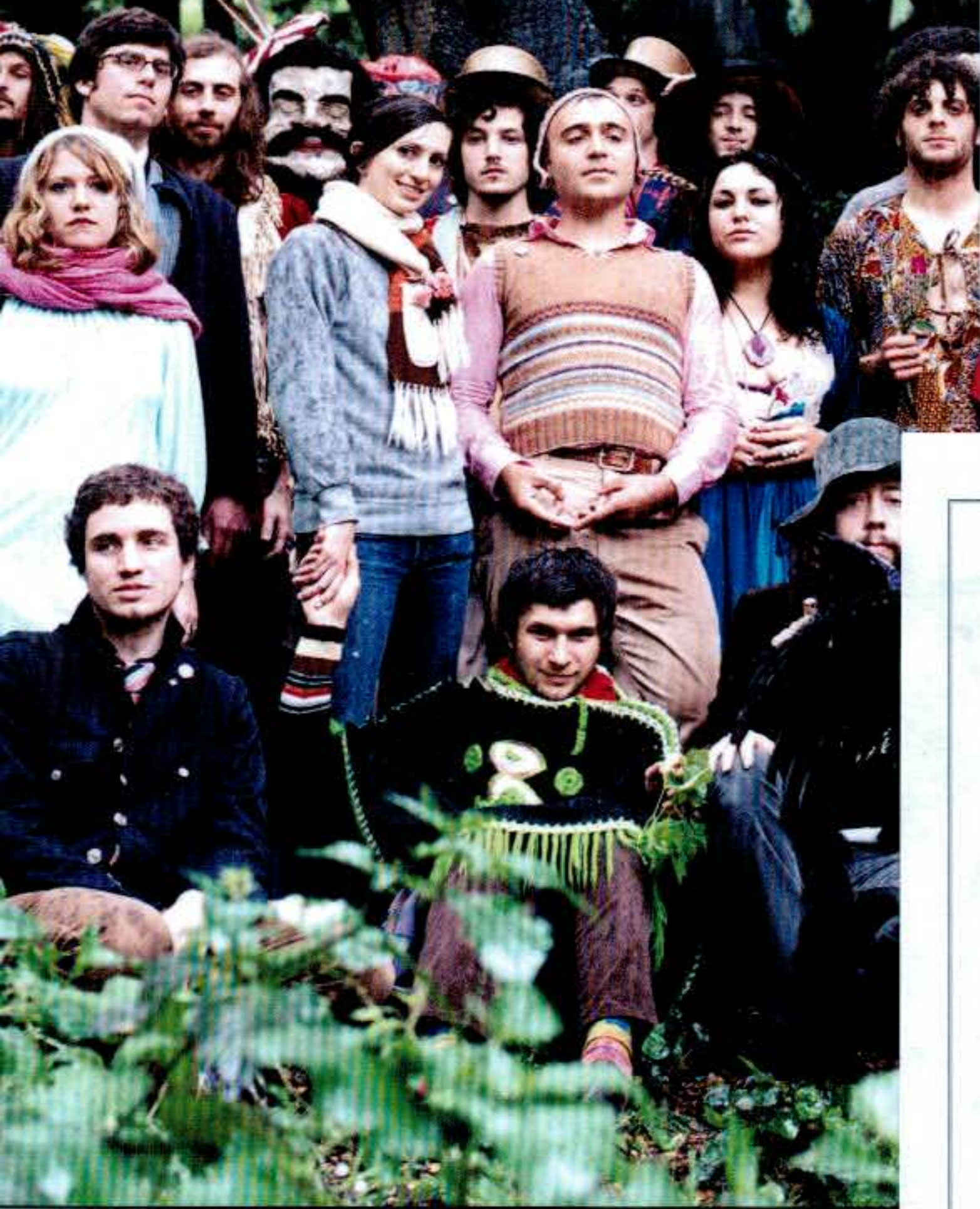


# PTOLEMAIC TERRASCOPE



## VELVET UNDERGROUND: UNDER REVIEW (Sexy Intellectual DVD)

Sandy Denny: Under Review (Sexy Intellectual DVD)

There's a scene in a Woody Allen film (I think it's *Deconstructing Harry*), where Allen takes an elevator into hell. Hell has many floors - and at each stop, they announce who is located on that floor. At one point, they announce, "Lawyers who appear on TV shows." I think a similar place should be reserved for journalists who appear in music documentaries who have little to no connection to the artists they are discussing. In the Sandy Denny DVD we suffer through some blowhard

telling us what her best albums are (he appears to prefer the later period ones, including her slightly disappointing final album *Rendezvous*). However, what makes this Sandy Denny DVD a "must have" is the interviews with musicians who knew her best. Rather than use people like Dave Pegg and Ashley Hutchings who've been interviewed a million times, we get to hear from Fairport drummer Dave Mattacks and Fotheringay drummer Gerry Conway. It is very refreshing to get a different perspective on this amazing talent. Also grilled are Fairport's Dave Swarbrick and her pals Martin Carthy and John Renbourn. Overall, this is a fine overview of Denny with some stories and insights that haven't been put into a book yet. Sadly, there's very little footage of Sandy herself - but that's not the case with the *Velvet Underground* DVD, which gives us short but great tidbits of footage (some silent, some not), that most fans haven't seen before. No surprise that Cale or Reed don't make a contemporary appearance, but we do get fresh interviews with Moe Tucker, the under-rated Doug Yule (remember, this dude played on more recording than Cale!), and Factory photographer Billy Name (the man who took the all black front cover photo of *White Light/White Heat*). Velvet's experts Clinton Heylin and Sal Mercuri throw a few interesting comments into the mix, but in general it's the vintage footage and the interviews with the Velvets themselves (and Billy Name) that make this worth your while.

## An Illustrated Occasional

- Devendra Banhart talks about British Folk Rock

Interviews with:

- Shirley Collins
- Davey Graham
- Michael Chapman
- Vashti Bunyan
- Ron Ashton of the Stooges
- Elaine Brown of the Black Panther Party

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