

writer/actor Rude, whose love for his mate is palpable during a Q&A session after the movie's showing at the Tribeca Film Festival (included as a DVD extra). When Strummer's anti "rock-star" style is questioned, Rude shows his sincere affection with the response, "I think that some people are just born sweethearts."

Pete Yorn

Nightcrawler
(Red Ink/Columbia)

Handsome troubadour, Pete Yorn made a splash on his first stop in Rochester this summer as he primed fans for his new album, *Nightcrawler* with performances of key tracks that have stuck with this listener since that visit. While the reviews for Yorn's third full-length have been lukewarm thus far, don't let those jaded critics keep you from giving this passionate work a listen.

Yorn's songwriting continues to grow since making his debut in 2001, where songs like "For Us," ride high with hooks, but express the decay of a relationship with lyrics sung in biting fashion, "Ask yourself/What do you think about us?" "Undercover" continues with Yorn's catchy rock 'n' roll, ending in frenetic guitar intoxication. Yorn teams up with the Dixie Chick's Natalie Maines on stand-out song, "The Man," where their voices harmonize in gorgeous fashion, while piano and fiddle instrumentation play up the sweet beauty. Yorn isn't opposed to honoring other songwriters either as he does with a cover of Warren Zevon's excellent "Splendid Isolation," and though "Georgie Boy" oddly enough reminds of XTC at certain junctures, it works as something a little different for Yorn. Not afraid to venture outside the box, Yorn's latest displays an artist with a confidence reserved for the third album.

Led Zeppelin

The Origin of the Species DVD
(Sexy Intellectual)

A groundbreaking band if ever there was one, Led Zeppelin changed the landscape of music upon their arrival in the late 60's. While the story of Zeppelin has been translated numerous times, it seems that fans are forever hungry to learn even more about the

legendary group... meaning there will always be new product to quench them. The new DVD, *Led Zeppelin - The Origin of the Species* is described as "a critical review of the band's roots and branches," and takes the audience back in time to the musical germination of members Jimmy Page, Robert Plant, John Bonham and John Paul Jones. Each member's early influences are examined, especially focusing on Page and Plant's similar interest in roots blues, citing B.B. King, Muddy Waters



and Robert Johnson as heroes, with styles that are certainly emulated on Led Zeppelin's first album. As various journalists and writers narrate the band's story, commentary is given with a backdrop of rarely seen photos and some musical performances that have never before been available. These items are enough to make this DVD an essential for die-hards.

While no one would argue the impact Led Zeppelin has had on music, sometimes the popular mystique of the larger-than-life band makes us forget about the exceptional virtuosity of these players. The DVD reminds of Jimmy Page's guitar prowess at even a young age, as he became one of the most in-demand session players going, where, the movie states, "it's estimated he played on 60% of the hits that came out of London from 1963-1966." John Paul Jones held the same esteem with the bass as a revered session artist, while John Bonham's brash and extreme power behind the drums still remains unmatched. As Page's time with



The Yardbirds is discussed at length by guitarist Chris Dreja, the final chapter of that band plants the seeds for the beginnings of Zeppelin, where the relatively unknown singer, Robert Plant, provides the wailing vocals Page desires for his new band. Thus, the origin of the species is examined in long-form, with enough historic artifacts from the band to keep it interesting, though it seems at times, this story's been told before, and the song still remains the same.

By Michelle Picardo

Fall Rocks

on disc