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October 26, 2006

## DVD REVIEWS

### Andre Dellamorte Reviews Some Prince and Radiohead

10/25/2006

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### Reviews by Andre Dellamorte

#### Andre Dellamorte Reviews Some Prince and Radiohead

Prince's 'Diamonds and Pearls' DVD, a new greatest hits CD, and 'Under Review - Radiohead: OK Computer'.

#### DVD Review - 'The OC: Season Three'

Kenny Fisher takes a detailed look at the entire OC saga and why season three didn't work.

#### DVD Review - 'The Adams Family: Volume One'

The first season of this classic 1960's show finally hits DVD.

#### Some New Paramount DVD Artwork and Info For December

'World Trade Center' on DVD, HD and Blue-Ray, 'Jackass 2', '1900' and more.

#### DVD Review - 'Nightmares and Dreamscapes: From the Stories of Stephen King'

Collider reviewer Nico loves Stephen King, but he admits this DVD is a mixed bag.

#### DVD Review - 'The Road to Guantanamo'

Peter reviews the docu-drama by Michael Winterbottom and Mat Whitecross.

#### The Man of Steel Becomes the First TV Show to Be on HD-DVD

Congrats to 'Smallville'! Take a look at

the cover art here.

#### DVD Review – 'Nacho Libre'

Jackson reviews the follow up film from the director of 'Napoleon Dynamite'.

#### DVD Review – 'Monster House'

Matt Lynch wonders what happened to good kid films.

#### DVD Review – 'Sweetie'

Nicole Pedersen reviews the Criterion release of Jane Campion's first film.

#### DVD Review – 'Justice League Unlimited: Season One'

Nico says if you're looking for well-crafted storytelling, solid characterization and an all-around good time, pick up 'JLU'.

#### New 20th Century Fox DVD Artwork and Info

'Simpsons Season 9', 'Haven', 'Stacked', 'Garfield' and more.

#### Criterion Announces Their January Slate

'Mouchette', 'Border Radio', 'Monsters and Madmen' and new versions of 'Yojimbo' and 'Sanjuro'. Info and artwork here.

#### DVD review – 'Animusic 2'

You like computer animation set to music? Then you'll dig this DVD.

#### Frosty Attends a Blue-Ray/HD-DVD Presentation at Paramount for 'MI3'

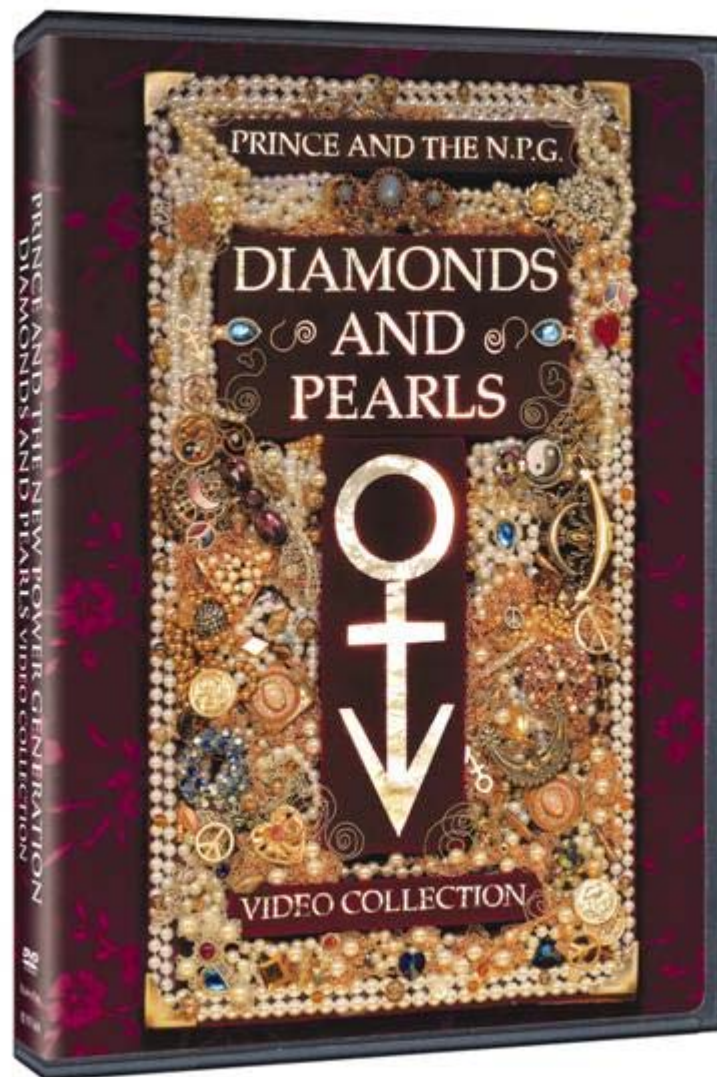
What is the future of home video? Click here to find out.

#### DVD Review – 'Reds'

Charles Coulombe says despite the fact that a quarter century has passed, Reds is even more relevant than when it first came out.

#### DVD Review – 'Twelve and Holding'

Not since 'Welcome to the Dollhouse' has the difficult age 'tween childhood and puberty been expressed on film so honestly.



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### What happened to Pearl? (Fuck Diamond, who cares about her)

*Diamonds and Pearls* is a modest album from a God. Prince (the artist formerly know as Prince, Prince Rodgers Nelson, etc.) was one of the few musicians who managed to make great art in the 80's, and had already manages a couple of the greatest albums ever by the time D&P hit in 1991. *Dirty Mind*, *Purple Rain*, *1999*, *Sign of the Times*, even the off albums, such as they are (be it *Lovesexy* or *Around the World in a Day*) have enough

tracks of worth to not be ashamed to own them. Hell, even the *Batman* soundtrack has its moments. *Diamonds* has some great Prince moments that have since been collected in a couple of greatest hits albums: *Gett Off*, *Cream*, *Money Don't Matter Tonight*. Some like the titular track, but it has always struck me as a little too melodically simplistic to be one of his better tracks.

Prince was still in fine form, it wasn't until the next album that his problems with Warner Brothers became so bothersome he got distracted, and half albums, and the unreleased crept their way out, as one of his best albums (*The Gold Experience*) sat around as he fought with his company of fifteen years. But *Diamonds* was also something of a regroup after the problems of *Batman*, and *Graffiti Bridge*. Prince delivered, oh he delivered, and few artists could combine religion and sex as well as he did.

Frankly, there are few words that express the ecstatic joy and slightly amused tone of the holler that opens *Gett Off*. It's as if Prince knew that the song (one could almost call it a variation on Chuck Berry's *My Ding-A-Ling* as the tone suggests amusement at the proceedings, though Prince had already courted controversy with his explicit *Darling Nikki*), as Prince navigates his way around seducing a pleasantly plump woman who been hungry for a good *schtuping* ("I heard the rip when you sat down"). This playfulness of sexuality, it's why Prince deserves his canonization. *Cream* is even more explicit, but less good raunchy fun, and yet he could deliver a perfectly perfect ballad like *Money Don't Matter Tonight* that ranks as one of the master's best.

As a music video compilation, *Prince – Diamonds and Pearls* is notable for starting with a clip of Bill O'Reilly, and a collection of songs written by Prince and his group at this era. For the most part the music videos are here, and live performances of *Thunder*, *Jughead*, and *Live 4 Love*.

Alas, Prince – even in his films – never matched his aural audacity with his visual acumen – and so watching videos for the aforementioned songs along with *Call The Law*, *Willing And Able*, *Insatiable*, *Strollin'* and *Dr. Feelgood* are really something only for the Prince completist who likes watching half baked music videos that offer footage of their master in his charming best, but little imagination otherwise.

Warner Brothers has put out the video compellation in PCM 2.0 stereo, and with chapter stops. That's about it.

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# Prince

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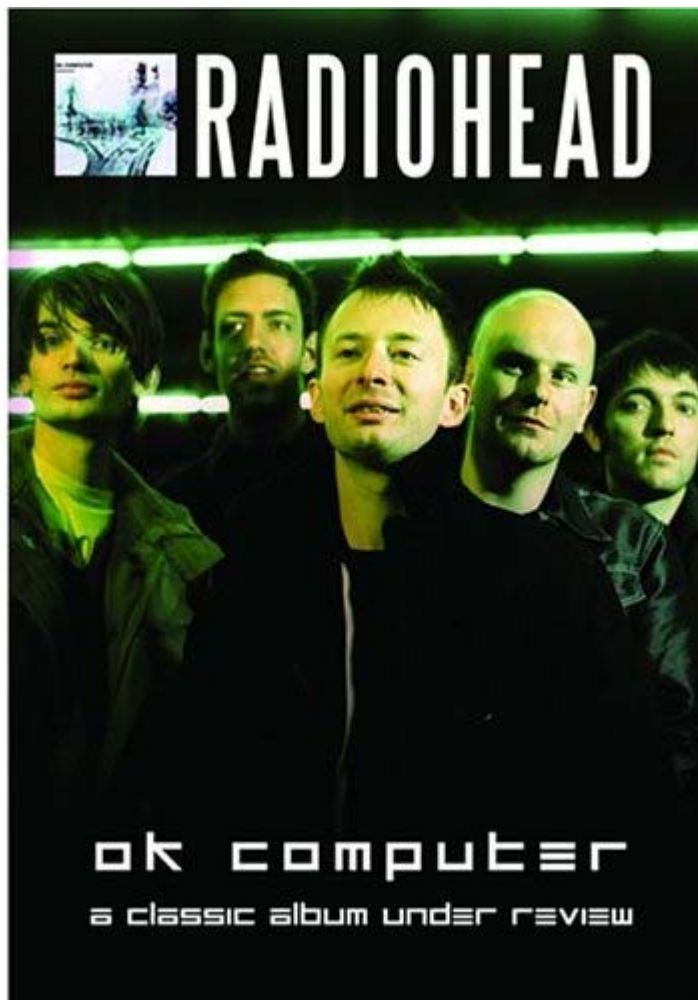
## Greatest Hits... Again

They've also released a best of two CD set called *Ultimate*. For those who've purchased *The Hits/The B Sides* (which is indispensable for its inclusion of such monstrous gems as *Erotic City* and *17 Days*), or the more stripped down best of *The Very Best of Prince*, well, there is some reason to pick this disc up, but again, you'd either have to be a Prince Naif or hardcore must haver to grab it.

That's not to knock the material. Almost every track on this collection is essential. *Raspberry Beret*, *Kiss*, *Uptown*, *Controversy*, *Alphabet St.* Jesus Christ, and I'm scratching the surface. This disc also features some extended versions of songs, like *Let's Go Crazy*, which you may have danced to, but not owned. Not owning *Purple Rain* is a criminal offense, so if this is how you get some of those tracks, hey, good on you.







### We've Crashed the Party

*OK Computer* is one of those albums. You can't be of a certain age (say 18-35) and have not heard it, and consider yourself in any way hip or with it. And if you are in that age range, Jesus fucking Christ, get your shit together and get up on it, lessen you're married and/or a huge fan of *Serenity* or *Enterprise* and don't leave the house much.

*Classic Records Under Review – Radiohead: OK Computer* is a chance to get a bunch of British music critics together to dissect this seminal album (and if you don't agree that it's seminal, and disagree with Pitchfork's assessment that it's one of the best record of the last ten year, then *whateva*). There are interesting tidbits: a case is made that *Karma Police* derives from The Beatles' *Sexy Sadie*, and I had never thought of that before, while

other parallels are made.

Otherwise, if you're a fan of the band, you might enjoy this. But it's something that's slightly better than you might think. Extras include a rather tough quiz on the band, and adverts for other related products.

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