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YOUR LIFE

Thursday, Sep. 16, 2010

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One Leonard, two Pauls with Pearl Jam on the side

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However, highlights include “Heaven and Earth,” where the drums add a Beatle-ish feel. Other favorites: the title tune and the Tull-flavored “Islands.”

Paul Manousos was announced Aug. 23 as a regional round finalist for the West division in the ninth year of the Mountain Stage New Song Contest. The winner gets to record a five-song EP produced/engineered by Grammy-winning producer Jacquire King (Norah Jones) as well as performing on the internationally broadcast Mountain Stage (NPR) show. Regional winners were announced Sept. 3 with winners advancing to the live finals Oct. 22 at NYC’s Winter Garden.

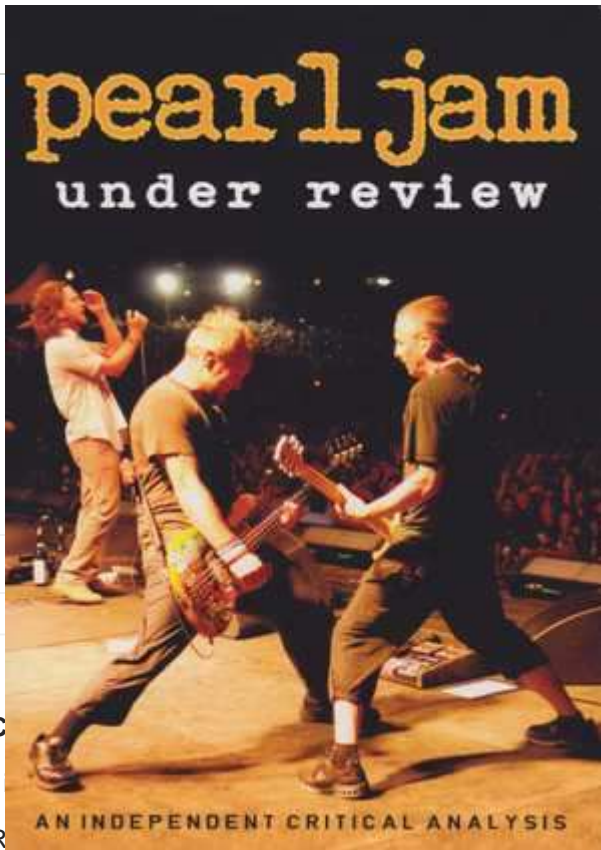
This CD presents Manousos (voices, keys, harmonicas and household percussion), bassist Peter Canton, guitarist Darrin Fox and drummer Andrew Griffin playing rowdier singer-songwriter stuff than the Turner disc. Favorites include a fairly faithful cover of “Wichita Lineman,” the loosey-goosey “Getting Better,” the twangy “One Eye Open” and the slightly spooky “Getting Out.”



Those who want less laid-back singer/songwriter stuff, grab this one.

‘Under Review,’ Pearl Jam (MVDvisual, HHHH)

Pearl Jam emerged as one of the biggest bands from the early 1990s Seattle “grunge” scene, and unlike the others, has kept going for 20 years. This Sept. 21 DVD contains interviews with band members, close allies, rock writers and other important personnel.



There's also performance footage, as well as information on reissues and a Cameron Crowe-directed movie that's possibly in the works.

The highlights for me are the early performances, carrying on through Pearl Jam's ultimately doomed fight with Ticketmaster that made USA touring impossible for quite awhile. I attended a non-Ticketmaster show at Tad Gormley Stadium in New Orleans with The Ramones (on their "Adios Amigos" tour) opening, and I was quite impressed by Eddie Vedder and Company. Their most recent album, "Backspacer," is their punkiest one for a long time. Pearl Jam fans or folks wanting to know more about this now-classic band, start here.

Another good place to investigate the "grunge" movement is "Grunge Is Dead: The Oral History of Seattle Rock Music," Greg Prato (ECM Press), a book reviewed May 8, 2009.

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rickyflake@bellsouth.net.

tt's first name in my Sept. 10 column.

lives in Biloxi, can be reached at

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