



MUSIC TO WATCH:

Strange Fruit: The Beatles' Apple Records
Chrome Dreams DVD
www.chromedreams.co.uk

Talking Heads
Chronology
Eagle Vision DVD
www.eaglerockent.com

The Jeff Healey Band
Live In Belgium
Eagle Rock North DVD
www.eaglerockent.com
By George W. Harris

Here are three intriguing discs (one with a cd) that show that music can be visually chronicled as well as sonically stored.

Strange Fruit is a fascinating 2 ½ hour documentary describing the creation, rise and fall of the Beatles' own Apple Records. Featuring insightful commentary by Beatlephiles Chris Ingham, Mark Payress and Stefan Granados, recollections by members of Badfinger, Elephant's Memory, Jackie Lomax and others, along with some archival footage of the Fab Four and their label mates, this dvd shows how a label "run by artists" creates as many problems as it solves. The term "lost opportunity" comes up often in describing how the label handled artists such as Mary Hopkins, Billy Preston, James Taylor Jackie Lomax and others, as the label's beginning was also during the time of the breakup of the band itself. An objective look at the potential of the label that was missed makes this an essential viewing for anyone even remotely interested in the band, era or generation of Vietnam.

The band Talking Heads did NOT miss their opportunity, riding the crest of the punk/new wave music scene in late 70s NYC, and using that as a starting point to become one of the most important bands of the "awesome" 80s. This dvd collects material ranging from 1975 sets at CBGB's to just reaching the cusp of popularity on '79 shows on Saturday Night Live and American Bandstand, all the way up to the very hip and suave 83 show with David Letterman, capping with a Rock and Roll Hall of Fame tune in 2002. Watching David Byrne and company change from a herky jerky and wide eyed quartet to a dapper, mature and sophisticated trend setter shows what hard work and creativity can lead to. Tunes like "Take Me To The River," " Psycho

Killer" "Animals" and "Burning Down The House" sound as fresh and alluring as they initially did to our disco-infected ears way back when.

Guitarist/singer/songwriter Jeff Healey is caught in a well paced 1993 gig in Belgium on this dvd/cd set. The music itself is old school blues rock, with boogie and blues in abundance. The swagger of "Baby's Lookin' Hot" or the down home blues of "Evil and Hear To Stay" is filled with grit and sweat, while ballads like "Lost In Your Eyes" give an extra dimension to this six stringed master. No matter what the decade, it's guys like Healey who've kept their hands blistered with tunes like "Angel Eyes" and a smoking "Whlie My Guitar Gently Weeps." A carrier of the baton that is passed to the next Strat master.