

DVD releases

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expansive castle sets, filmed on Warner's Burbank back lot, are convincing, and Richard A. Kline's cinematography beautifully frames the cinematic fantasy world.

Songs include "If Ever I Would Leave You," "The Lusty Month of May," "I Loved You Once in Silence," "Take Me to the Fair," "How to Handle a Woman," and "What Do the Simple Folk Do?"

The 45th Anniversary Blu-ray edition contains a new featurette, commentary by Stephen Farber, "The Story of Camelot," newsreel footage of the premiere, CD soundtrack sampler, theatrical trailer, and 36-page book with photos.

"The Wicker Tree" (Anchor Bay), the follow-up to the 1973 cult classic "The Wicker Man," tells the story of Texas-based singer Beth Boothby (Brittania Nicol) and her friend Steve Thomson (Henry Garrett), two born-again Christians who go to Scotland to spread the gospel. When their initial efforts are met with disdain and disinterest, they find comfort in an invitation to sing in Tressock, the fiefdom owned by Sir Lachlan Morrison (Graham McTavish). However, Beth and Steve's message of chastity comes into direct conflict with Tressock's sexual and religious practices, derived from ancient Celtic beliefs and rituals. Bonuses on the Blu-ray and DVD versions include a behind-the-scenes featurette, deleted scenes, and theatrical trailer.

"Strange Fruit: The Beatles' Apple Records" (Chrome Dreams) is a documentary chronicling The Beatles' 1968

creation of Apple, a company that welcomed all kinds of musicians, writers, artists, filmmakers, inventors, and designers. There are many knowledgeable interviewees, but no footage of The Beatles, and only snippets of Beatles music. The story of Apple parallels the breakup of The Beatles, and this is the documentary's most interesting aspect.

"The Sky's the Limit" (Warner Archive) is a 1943 musical starring Fred Astaire. This time, he is teamed with Joan Leslie. Astaire plays Fred Atwell, an ace with the Flying Tigers. On leave in New York, Fred decides to avoid hero worship and dons civilian clothes. He meets and falls for Joan Manion (Leslie), a photographer, and sets out to win her heart. Because Joan is dedicated to the war effort, she considers Fred, who is keeping his military role secret, a ne'er-do-well. The songs by Johnny Mercer and Harold Arlen include "My Shining Hour," "I've Got a Lot in Common With You," and "One for My Baby."

"Frozen Planet" (BBC Home Entertainment) is a nature documentary that spectacularly showcases the Arctic and Antarctic. Glorious photography and amazing shots of indigenous wildlife highlight this three-disc Blu-ray release. The scale and beauty of the scenery and the sheer power of the elements are captured using the latest camera technology. "Frozen Planet" presents imagery above and below the ice, including previously unfiled animal behavior, and follows the dramatic fluctuations that accompany the changes of season. Bonuses include a look at scientific exploration of the South Pole; seven making-of featurettes, one at the end of each episode; a set of 47 video shorts; music-only viewing option; and "Frozen Planet: The Epic Journey."