



by Tom Von Malder

The Rolling Stones: Under Review 1975-1983, the Ronnie Wood Years (Part 1) (Sexy Intellectual DVD, NR, 115 min.) and Mick vs. Keith: The Strange Case of Jagger & Richards (Chrome Dreams, 2 DVDs, NR, 224 min.). These are two of the newest of the many unauthorized DVD documentaries on the Rolling Stones. The first covers the first seven years of Ronnie Woods in the Rolling Stones. He replaced Mick Taylor, who resigned. (Taylor replaced original member, the late Brian Jones.) Woods came from the freewheeling Faces (original the Small Faces, Rod Stewart's old group). Wood helped the Stones regain some of their luster, working on the funky "Black and Blue" album and "Some Girls," which covered both New Wave and disco in its palette. The next albums during this period were "Emotional Rescue," "Tattoo You" (it had the hit "Start Me Up"), the live "Still Life" and "Undercover." The year 1983 also ended their association with Atlantic Records. (Interestingly, among those auditioned to replace Taylor were Peter Frampton, Jeff Beck and Rory Gallagher," although the latter two claimed not to know it had been an audition.) Grade: B

The second DVD set goes back to when Mick Jagger and Keith Richards were in primary school together in Dartford, England in the early 1950s. It also looks at their 50 years together in the oft-called Greatest Rock & Roll Band in the World. The set looks at both their often rocky relationship and the mechanics of their songwriting partnership. Grade: B