

The Syd Barrett story is one that seems tailor made for an interesting documentary film. This DVD, however, isn't that. Instead of documenting his life and career, "Under Review" serves as a critical review of his recorded work, covering his brief time as the leader of Pink Floyd as well as his increasingly fractured solo albums released after he was booted from the band and replaced by David Gilmour. It features interviews with Chris Welch of Melody Maker, Barrett Biographer David Parker, Uncut Magazine's Nigel Williamson, Rock Journalist Malcolm Dome, and Hugh Hopper who played in Soft Machine and backed Barrett on his solo albums. Basically, this is little more than a video version of a magazine article. Sure there are some clips of Barrett both live and in the studio, but with the advent of video posting sites like www.youtube.com, these clips are pretty readily available for free. Barrett cultists will probably scoop this up quickly, but others can get the effect of watching this video by simply scouring the Internet for articles, album reviews and video footage.

- David Mansdorf