

DVD EXTRA

BY SYLVIE SIMMONS AND ANDREW MALE

John Cale

The Residents

★★★

Demons Dance Alone

MVD/EURO RALPH

Free-roaming live footage of the arthouse-nightmare makers' 2002 NY show – songs of human loneliness and fear sung with the reedy wheeze of asphyxiating children by creeping devil-masked balladeers and all captured on night-vision cameras lending the show a grainy, brain-decaying quality. AM

charismatic. Hosted in amateur-night fashion by Jay Stewart, its tiny stage featured every aspect of country, from group sing-alongs to crossover pop and youth-led rockabilly. Each 90 minute programme features at least six songs by a star performer like Carl Perkins, Wanda Jackson, Merle Travis. Perhaps the most diverse offering is the Valentine's night shindig, thanks to an appropriately engaging Jim Reeves, western swing contributions from

"balls". Writer Nicky Chinn claims, straight-faced, that their exploits gave them a "positive energy", while a bored narrator recounts the history, illustrated by often Spinal Tapesque TV asphyxiating children by creeping devil-masked balladeers and all captured on night-vision cameras lending the show a grainy, brain-decaying quality. AM

Tommy Duncan (once Bob Wills' lead singer), and The Flairs, a well-rehearsed rock trio, who induced the kind of screaming subsequently associated with Top Of The Pops. Fred Dellar

while a perfectly decent band chugs away behind him. Cat Stevens had already reinvented himself, of course, from '60s pop idol to intelligent '70s singer-songwriter who had wilfully challenged the natural order, but there's no sign that he was about to abandon it all and become Yusuf Islam. The explanations come in an annoyingly disjointed latter-day interview sequence which throws tantalising glimmers of light on his new life and the songs that took him there. Colin Irwin

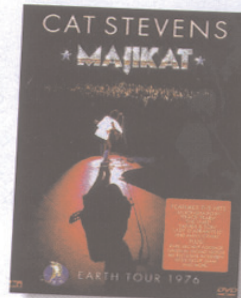
Cat Stevens

★★★

Majikat EAGLE

In 1976, the star embarked on his lavish Earth Tour. It was 30 years before he appeared in public again...

Amid the faintly preposterous stage production, involving film projections and live magicians, you inevitably look for clues. Is this a man on the precipice? Some apocalyptic moment of self-awareness tipping him over into a new identity? A spiritual happening? Nope, we get Moonshadow, Lady D'Arbanville, Peace Train and Father & Son... and yes, even Another Saturday Night, performed with unspectacular warmth on acoustic guitar



Youth Against Tedium: Art Grunge vs MTV, 1990-2004.

"It was kind of an experiment," Kim Gordon recently said of Sonic Youth's signing to Geffen. This videography is a rightful chronicle of their ongoing tenure as artistic spirit within the corporate machine: from ambitiously shooting clips for song off their 'major' at Goo, to their sardonic flirtation with post-MTV, their later abandonment of the mainstream in favour of experimental direction. The surfeit of X signifiers (skate-moshpits, etc) in the '90s grates a little, but the subterranean Tunic, Sunday and the Girl assert that this 'experiment' has yielded success, even if the vacuous music is negligible now. The DVD extras, including short features and a fascinating perfect cultural

Stevie Chick

Marvin Gaye

★★★

The Very Best Of Marvin Gaye/Live In Montreux 1980

UNIVERSAL

Marvin in concert, bundled up with double audio CD 'best-of'.

Marvin Gaye was always ambivalent about live performance: he wasn't comfortable dancing, his voice couldn't handle the night-after-night grind of the one-nighters of the early '60s, and he always felt most intimately connected with his music in the studio. This deluxe European festival gig from 1980 finds him



ing to be a show – then there is one), while the brilliance of the to-camera set-pieces (Eugene Levy's medicated eyebrows are a joy unconfined) fails to dull the clamour of missed opportunities (nobody "went electric" in this history) or the suspicion that a cast of improv geniuses such as Guest's might have provided a few more outtakes to flesh out the DVD. Rent and enjoy – just don't expect a "Stonehenge" moment. Danny Eccleston

Sonic Youth

★★★★

Corporate Ghost

UNIVERSAL



A Mighty Wind's New Main Street Singers: nightmarish

Warner Bros/Everett/Flick