

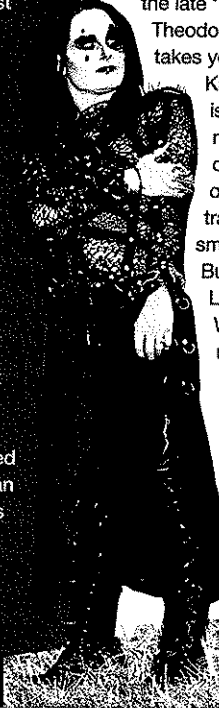
Cradle Of Filth

Peace Through Superior Firepower
Roadrunner



A shortarse Englishman with enough make-up caked on to make even the oldest cadaver blush, I sometimes try to imagine Dani

Filth just ducking down the corner shops in the morning for some bread and milk. I can almost picture him now, strutting along in his outlandish get-up, reveling in the outrage he is causing among his neighbours, blissfully unaware that the world sees him not as a figure of darkness and fear, but a harmless angry dwarf filling the void left by Ronnie James Dio. *Cradle Of Filth* are the same deal, smoke and mirrors evil that seems like comedy to most of us yet sells like porn to the gluttonous MTV metal brigade. This well-assembled DVD with live footage and an on-the-road documentary is for all those black T-shirted kids who, just like their pocket-sized hero Dani, just aren't as extreme or rebellious as they wish they were. MIKE BELF



Rockers

25th Anniversary Edition
Umbrella/Shock



Just like *Barfly* made me want to get drunk for a month and *Fight Club* made me want to punch out my boss (as if I needed prompting), *Rockers*

made me want to move to Jamaica and become a Rastaman. Filmed in the late '70s by Greek filmmaker Theodoros Bafaloukos, *Rockers* takes you down on the streets of Kingston Town where 7" vinyl is sold from the back of a motorbike, where sharply-dressed MCs wait over old school dub and reggae tracks, and where ganja smoke billows freely. Starring Burning Spear drummer Leroy "Horsemouth" Wallace, the cast features many legendary reggae men. But knowing who's who is not essential to the enjoyment of the film - nor is the fact that not many of them can act and the plot is pretty shoddy. Ultimately it's the music, the culture and the wicked dialect that makes *Rockers* one enthralling cinema experience. HS



Muse

Absolution Live
Warner Vision

The second Muse DVD release after the very hefty and worthwhile package that was 2002's *Hullabaloo*, *Absolution Live* seems like the kind of rushed-out-just-in-time-for-Xmas release that the major labels thrive on throughout December and into the New Year. While Muse's triumphant 2005 Glastonbury Festival headlining performance was arguably the pinnacle of the group's success thus far, the sheer size of the show robs this DVD of any chance of intimacy. There is an inherent disconnection involved in a band playing to audiences across such a great distance on such a big stage, and that is compounded further by Muse's often one-dimensional showmanship and the sterilisation that often occurs when converting a loud, sweaty live gig into a home viewing experience.

Featuring the bulk of Muse's Glastonbury 05 performance, the sound and pictures are adequate in conveying the magnitude but not the nuances of the moment. The band put in a generally impressive performance, displaying their full range of talents on popular hits like "Hysteria", "Sing for Absolution" and "Time is Running Out", though the omission of firm favourites "Stockholm Syndrome" and "Citizen Erased" from the original Glastonbury broadcast seems a baffling decision and one that will disappoint fans. To compensate there is an alternate "Stockholm Syndrome" recorded at London's Earls Court included in the bonus features section, along with several other scant live treasures.

Not nearly as comprehensive or insightful or essential as *Hullabaloo*, this is one for all you Muse completists out there. AS

New York Dolls

All Dolled Up
Music Video Distributors/MRA

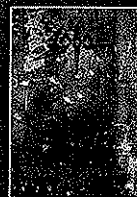


One of the chief influences on both the punk rock movement of the late '70s and the glam metal explosion of the mid-'80s, true-to-life trashbags

the New York Dolls downed booze, shagged chicks and snorted up drugs like an outta control rock 'n' roll party machine. Self destruction was inevitable for a band with no off switch, but thankfully famous New York photographer Bob Gruen was there with one of the first professional video cameras available documenting as much of the Dolls onstage and offstage antics as possible. This documentary is made up entirely of Gruen's archival footage, and as a result will be more suited to real fans than those with merely a passing interest. Anyone hoping for an introduction to the Dolls' ala Sex Pistols with *Fifth And The Fury* or The Ramones with *End Of The Century* will have to hold their breath a bit longer. JW

Sodom

Lords Of Depravity: Part 1
SPV/Riot



Bullet belts and studded wristbands at the ready? Here's a set of discs celebrating the early history of German thrash

metal pioneers Sodom. This double-DVD package is Part 1 in the saga, detailing the years 1982 to 1995. The second of these discs features 30 songs filmed at several different live shows with the current line-up of Tom Angelripper (vocals/bass), Bernemann (guitar) and Bobby Schottkowski (drums). But way better than that is Disc One containing the *Lords Of Depravity* documentary, which uses archival footage and rare photos as well as a string of interviews with current and former Sodom band members and associates. Unsurprisingly, the star of the show is band leader and mainstay Tom Angelripper, who explains how he escaped a career as a coal miner when Sodom broke out in the late '80s. DC



The Hives

Tussles in Brussels
Universai

Sweden's well-dressed and shamelessly flamboyant Hives once again prove themselves in a different class to most everyone else by delivering the ultimate Hives experience on DVD. Broken up into four separate components, *Tussles In Brussels* features all the Hives video clips, a few television appearances, a full live concert, and one of the most bizarre and coolest band documentaries ever made. The eight clips date from the very earliest ("AKA Idiot") to the very latest ("A Little More For Little You"), including two never-seen-before gems. Of the six television appearances, four are taken from an episode of Jules Holland's *Later*, though none are all that awe-inspiring. The hour-long gig was shot in Brussels, Belgium during the *Tyrannosaurus Hives* tour and is a fair representation of The Hives at work. The half-hour doco is a surrealistic pop art masterpiece made by somebody with way too much time and mind-altering substances on their hands. AS

