



ROCK
NEW YORK DOLLS
All Dotted Up DVD
 (Mira)

New Yorker Bob Gruen must have kicked himself when he reviewed the 40 hours of gritty video footage he shot in the 1970s: the New York Dolls were a band best experienced in day-glo colour, not verite-styled black-and-white. Fronted by the lipping, mincing and highly charismatic David Johansen (later known as Buster Poindexter) and doomed junkie guitarist Johnny Thunders, the cross-dressing Dolls were a bastard mix of Rolling Stones' raunch and Alice Cooper freakshow, though never as big as either. *All Dotted Up* – best viewed with the commentary track on – catches them flouncing between their NYC base and appearances in LA, a few years before they crashed and burned in 1977. Extras include a picture gallery of the Dolls at their best: in garish colour. - JEFF APTER



SOUNDTRACK
JACK JOHNSON & FRIENDS
Sing-A-Longs and Lullabies for the film Curious George
 George
 (Brushfire/universal)

The recruitment of Hawaiian heartthrob Jack Johnson for the soundtrack of a kids' movie makes such perfect sense that it's a shock it hasn't happened until now. Johnson, the Gen X answer to Don Ho, writes easy-listening acoustic strums with an almost nursery rhyme like simplicity, qualities that are absolutely essential to the fickle playground set. He's made some smart moves, too, with these tunes for the animated version of the kindly classic. Firstly, he's roped in roots-music-loving buddies Ben Harper and G Love to help out, and he's also resisted the temptation to dumb things down for the pre-teens. Maybe