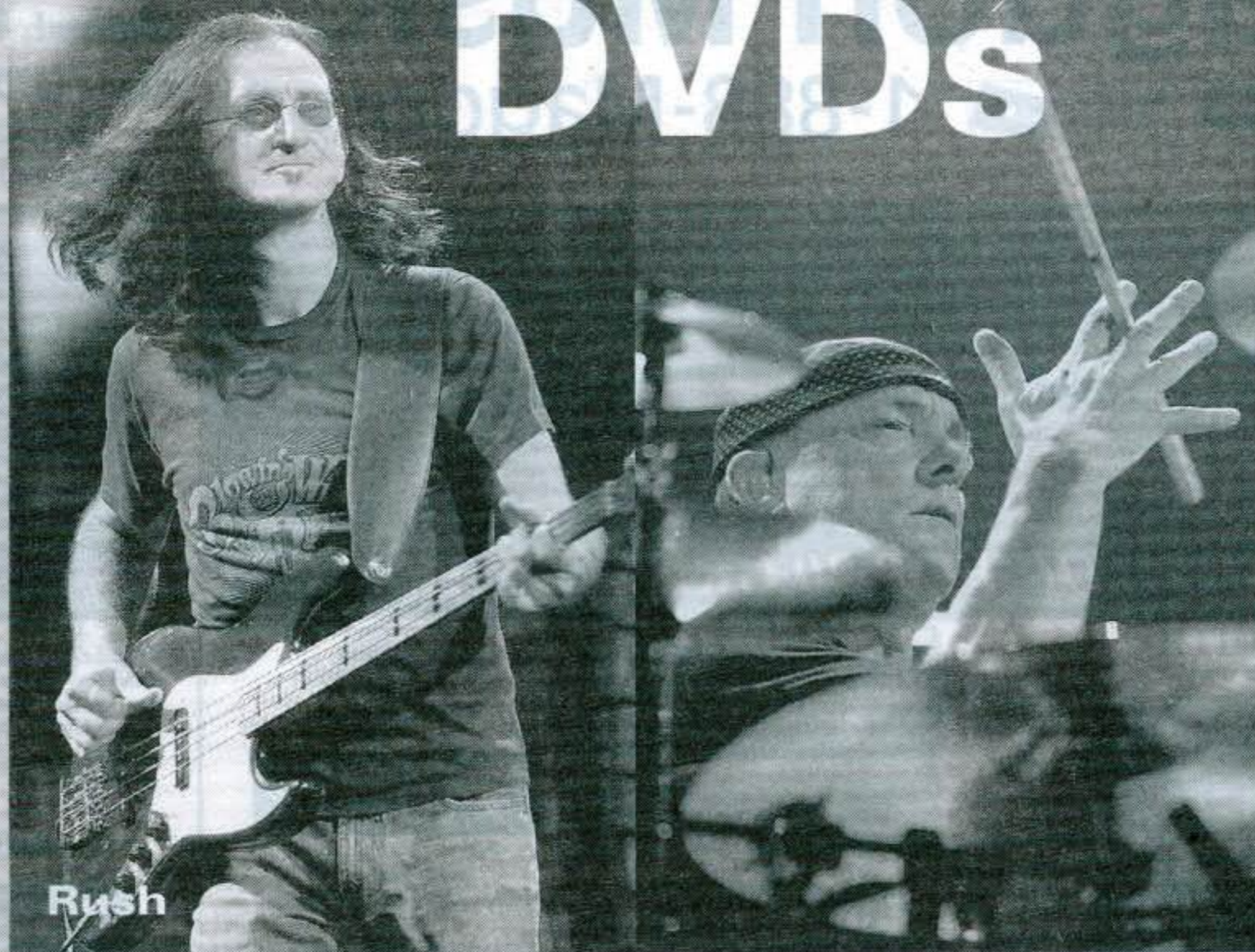


## DVDs



## Guitar Amalgam



Few bands have had a longer or more consistently successful career as **Rush**. On the trio's new four-DVD package, *R30*, they cover their 30-plus-year career with concert videos, classic interviews, and a double CD of music from their '04 tour of Europe.

Disc one kicks off with a full concert from one of their recent shows in Germany. I could list all the hits they play, but suffice to say, the anthems are here, from "Hemisphere" to "Subdivisions" to "Limelight." Guitarist Alex Lifeson (see feature in "First Fret") blazes away on a black PRS going into a fully stocked pedalboard and a backline of four Hughes & Kettner Signature TriAmp heads and five H&K 4x12" cabs. Bassist Geddy Lee, meanwhile, lays down the gravy on his signature black Fender Jazz Bass. Nobody does it better.

The real treats in this package can

be found on disc two, where you'll find vintage Rush video clips from the '70s. Check out "Fly By Night," with Lifeson on a walnut-brown Gibson ES-335 and Lee on a white Rickenbacker. Or dig into "Circumstances," with Lifeson on a white ES-355 (with Hiwatt stacks in the background) and Geddy on his trademark black 4001. And prog-rockers rejoice — there's a clip of 1977's space-epic, "Xanadu," replete with flowing capes, wind chimes, and both players on their respective Gibson and Rickenbacker doublenecks.

If that weren't hip enough, *R30* comes with a booklet of old photos, a backstage pass, and a pair of picks from Alex and Geddy. Too cool for words!



Another DVD to consider is *Queen: Under Review 1973-1980*. While this isn't an authorized video, there are vintage clips of **Queen** during its

heyday, and interviews with journalists. Of special note are the segments featuring Simon Bradley, who demonstrates some of Brian May's signature tones and licks. He deftly uses a Brian May signature guitar and Vox combo to conjure up May's sound, and goes in-depth on tracks like "Keep Yourself Alive" and "Bohemian Rhapsody." If you ever wanted a close-up look at the guitar side of Queen's music, these sections may alone be worth the price of admission.



Finally, there's a new DVD featuring Michael Schenker at the peak of his powers; *UFO: Too Hot To Handle*. Here you'll find rare footage of **UFO** from the late '70s, some of it of surprisingly good quality. Witness the youthful German wailing on his Gibson Flying V on "Doctor Doctor," "Lights Out" and the extended guitar solo on "Rock Bottom." Considering that few of us actually saw Schenker play with UFO, this DVD — while not perfect (there's superfluous material from the pre- and post-Schenker eras) — might serve as a holy grail to his fans. — **Pete Prown**