

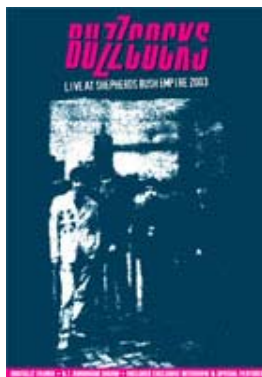


DVD reviews



Michael Franti & Spearhead Live In Sydney (MVD). [3 ½ ribs-straight up soul food.](#)

Michael Franti has always been a conscious, political rapper. These days Franti concentrates more on unifying people that combating institutions. On the recent DVD release of Live In Sydney, the rapper displays his global appeal as he plays to a packed crowd at the Hordern Pavilion in Sydney, Australia. Pouring on the positivity, Franti and Spearhead coast through 10 songs on the DVD. Bonus materials include: a slamming music video of a recording session of "Ganja Baby," an acoustic version of "Bomb The World" and a Beatbox session from Radio Active. *Will Jordan*



Buzzcocks Live At The Shepherds Bush Empire (Secret Films/ MVD). [4 ribs-served with cracklins'.](#)

Don't believe the hype, punk rock still lives and breathes in London and the Buzzcocks remain the lungs. For Buzzcocks' fans, Live At The Shepherds Bush Empire is a must have. With an unprecedented 32 tracks played live at Shepherds Bush Empire in London, England on April 27, 2003, the Buzzcocks rip through their entire repertoire with nostalgic ferocity. Bonus features include Australian tour footage,

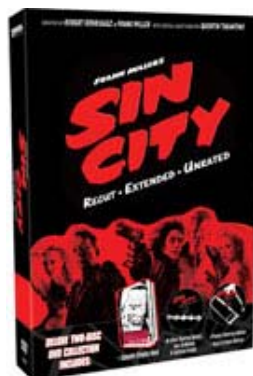
an interview with Pete Shelley and Steve Diggle, sound check footage and a tour memorabilia photo gallery. *Will Jordan*



God Save The Queen A Punk Rock Anthology (MVD). 3 ½ ribs-raw meat.

Ahh....good old-fashioned youth angst.

From the “Fuck The USA” belching The Exploited to the slam-dance evoking Subhumans, the Clockwork Orange-inspired-The Addicts and the hideous charm of Iggy Pop and The Stooges, God Save The Queen paints a pretty good picture of punk rock rebellion in the ‘70s. This 75-minute DVD includes 21 live and studio performances from some of the best old school bands. It also includes interviews and backstage antics. *Will Jordan*



Sin City-Recut-Extended-Unrated (Dimension Home Video). 5 ribs-a full slab.

Easily one of this year’s best films, *Sin City* shocked audiences with its stylish noir flavor and gritty, horrifically graphic images. Ripped from the pages of Frank Miller’s famed comic book, director Robert Rodriguez recreated the characters with unbelievable intensity keeping intact a cartoonish vibe. While the entire cast is stellar and includes Bruce Willis, Jessica Alba, Clive Owen, Benicio Del Toro, Brittany Murphy and Elijah Wood, Mickey Rourke’s Marv takes the cake. His romanticized, badass demeanor and seemingly indestructible anti-heroism is both tragic and unforgettably entertaining to witness. With this release, fans can take a deeper journey into Old Town. The complete, expanded and unrated version of the film has never-before-seen footage integrated directly into the feature by Rodriguez. This essential two-disc DVD includes hours of all-new bonus materials supervised directly by Rodriguez showing how the film was brought to life. The complete reprinted first issue of Frank Miller’s *Sin City* graphic novel *The Hard Goodbye* is also included. *Will Jordan*



Two Hands (Miramax). **3 ½ ribs-the other white meat.**

This DVD was actually better than expected. The 1999 B-rated Australian film stars Heath Ledger (*The Brothers Grimm*, *The Patriot*). This is one of Ledger's more honest and less fluff roles. In *Two Hands*, Jimmy (Ledger) is caught on the wrong side of a deal gone bad, and gets dangerously involved with a vicious mobster (Bryan Brown). The film is in the gritty tradition of *Pulp Fiction* and *Kill Bill*, and takes place on the streets of Australia. Jimmy owes money to the mob, but the money starts to get spent by others, while Jimmy's debt deadline comes up fast. The cast for *Two Hands* also features David Field, Susie Porter, Rose Byrne, Mariel McClory, Steve Le Marquand, Tom Long and Steve Vidler. *Will Jordan*



Gargoyles Season 2 Volume 1 (Walt Disney). **3 ½ ribs-leaves a strange taste in yer mouth.**

Gargoyles have always been a symbol of a gothic age. These stone creatures that loom on ledges of castles and other ancient buildings have both a menacing and protective look that have a timeless quality to them. In the animated *Gargoyles* series, one Scottish clan of the monsters made an alliance with humans to help protect a castle by night if the humans would protect their stone forms by day. The uneasy alliance was shattered when human prejudice provoked a betrayal that allowed the castle to be sacked and most of the resident clan destroyed, leaving only six adult survivors and a rookery of unhatched eggs. A further misunderstanding during the clan's retaliation on the invaders and rescue of their hostages left the clan frozen in stone by a magic spell that would only be broken when the "Castle rises above the Clouds." For a thousand years, the castle laid abandoned and the clan condemned by this curse. In 1994, a wealthy multibillionaire named David Xanatos, bought the castle and transported the whole structure to Manhattan where he placed it on top of the Eyrie building which he owned. It is high enough to be above the clouds, thus the conditions of the spell were met and the Gargoyles were revived. Now, this clan must adjust to this new age and gain friends like Detective Elisa Masa who reveals that Xanatos revived them to exploit them for his unscrupulous ends. This is coupled by the fact that another Gargoyle comrade, Demona, is alive from their age, and is now a insane renegade bent on the extermination of humanity. Rebelling against them, the clan abandon the castle and pledge to protect New York like they protected the castle in the past. This DVD set features 26 second season episodes of the show. *Will Jordan*



Death Race 2000 (Buena Vista). [2 ribs-send it back to the kitchen.](#)

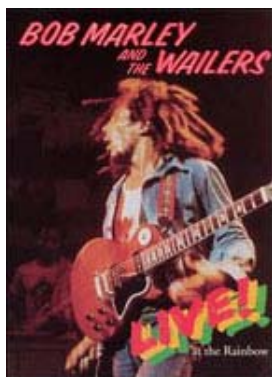
“In the year 2000, hit-and-run isn’t a crime. It’s the national sport.”

With all the cheesy violence and gore intact, Roger Corman’s *Death Race 2000* has been re-released with new special features. This B-rated cult flick, originally made in 1975, features a brutal cross country car race, where people are run down for points. The film features David Carradine as Frankenstein Sylvester Stallone as Machine Gun Joe and Simmone Griffith as Annie Smith. The special effects are terrible, with bright red goo meant to look like blood. The acting is horrible and the plot is riddiculas. *Will Jordan*



Oil On Ice

How could anyone be so environmentally ignorant as to ignore the terrible repercussions due to drilling for oil in the Alaskan wild? Without pointing fingers, the answer is obvious. Oil companies have already drilled more than 1,000 miles of the northern coast, and the remaining miles protected by the Artic National Wildlife Refuge is under attack. The first Bush administration opened the state to drilling in 1989, which led to the devastating Exxon Valdez oil spill. Considered one of the most controversial and powerful eco political films, *Oil On Ice*, gives insight into the pristine lands of the Alaskan Wildlife Refuge and the issues surrounding continuing drilling for oil. Ultimately, *Oil On Ice* reveals how the fate of the refuge is linked to decisions our nation makes about energy policy, transportation choices and other seemingly unrelated matters. The documentary film is filled with stunning images, candid interviews and shocking proof of blatant disregard of the preservation of one of the last true wildernesses left in the world. *Will Jordan*



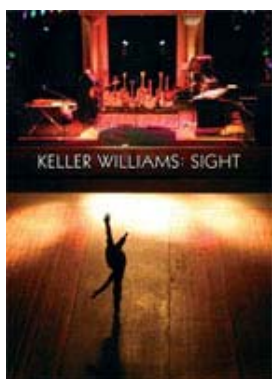
Bob Marley *Live! At The Rainbow* (Island-Tuff Gong-UM). 4 1/2 ribs.

The only better way to enjoy Bob Marley's music was to see him live. Those of us who never got the opportunity while he was alive have been given brief chances with DVD releases in the past. Now in a two-disk package, Island, Tuff Gong and UM give fans more of what they've longed for with *Live! At The Rainbow*, concert footage from the London venue taken back in 1986.

During that concert Marley performed uncontested versions of "Lively Up Yourself," "No Woman, No Cry," "Rebel Music" and many more classic tunes.

The DVD also features more than 20 minutes of exclusive interviews and footage shot in Kingston, Jamaica, of a visit to the Bob Marley Museum and Tuff Gong Studios as well as the award-winning 1988 documentary *Caribbean Nights: The Bob Marley Story*.

The video's audio has been digitally enhanced in both 5.1 surround sound and stereo. *Will Jordan*



Keller Williams *Sight* (MX). 3½ ribs-remember "you are what you eat"

Anyone who's seen Keller Williams live knows what the man can do. Others may hear a CD and enjoy it, but it's just not the same thing. Keller is one of the most incredibly talented showmen of his time. *Sight* does a damn good job of illustrating Keller's skills as a musician and a master at looping and conducting his own orchestra with him at the helm of every instrument. Recorded at Mr. Smalls' state-of-the-art theatre facility in Pittsburgh, PA, *Sight* features over 100 minutes of concert footage, as well as funny b-roll footage from the goofy singer's travels. *Will Jordan*



***Beanland: Rising From The Riverbed* (Cloudscape Productions)**

By Will Jordan

Chronicling nearly 20 years of Mississippi groove, *Beanland: Rising From The Riverbed* steps back in time with the beginnings of southern jam band's seminal outfits, Beanland. With interviews and archival video footage "from back porch Mississippi hippie-cover band to their hard earned arrival as a genuine musical force across the south" the documentary offers true insight into the life of the musicians who set off to conquer the jam band music scene. Interviews included are with some of the leading stars of the southern music including: JoJo Hermann and George McConnell of Widespread Panic; Cody and Luther Dickinson of The North Mississippi Allstars; Rev Jeff Mosier of the Aquarium Rescue Unit; Cedric Burnside of the Burnside Blues Family; Cary Hudson of Blue Mountain and legendary producer, Jim Dickinson. *Beanland: Rising From the Riverbed* is a two disc set and includes the film and a 12 track CD by various artists: Beanland, Aquarium Rescue Unit, Allgood, The Grapes, Cary Hudson of Blue Mountain, The Tangents, White Buffalo, Kudzu Kings, Daniel Karlish, Sweetbush Revival, Guelel Kumba, and the hidden track is Nichol and Cody Dickinson. There are also DVD bonus features with George and Bill acoustic, JoJo unplugged, Outtakes, and a moment with Jim Dickinson. This disk is a must have for anyone who made it out of the Delta region and have longed to look back. The era is painted as it was back then and those that lived it, now can put their memories on a shelf.

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