

Tim Buckley – My Fleeting House

MVD Visual (3 Stars)

This fully authorized documentary and historical collection is the definitive Buckley video reference, bar none. Compiling many ultra-obscure TV appearances, live footage, and interviews with Tim as well as his most intimate musical conspirators; My Fleeting House brings into focus the enigma of this influential and unique singer-songwriter. Tracing his start as a sort of 60s folktroubadour, then embracing far-out jazz, improvisational, and avant-garde structures, and finally taking an ill-fated turn into more conventional rock and funk, Buckley saw little success or record sales in his time. Sadly, only in the years since his untimely death has the breadth and scope of his work been revealed and 'discovered' by historians, fellow musicians, and fans. Tracks like the elegant and spectral "Song To The Siren" (performed here on The Monkees Show, oddly), the sultry "Come Here Woman," or the beautifully sad rendition of Fred Neil's "The Dolphins" show the stunning range of this tragic artist whose career lasted less than a decade, but covered more musical ground than most artists do in a lifetime. A rare look at an artist who has become a legend of sorts, My Fleeting House is essential viewing for fans or those curious at just what made Buckley's work so very special.

-- Todd Zachritz