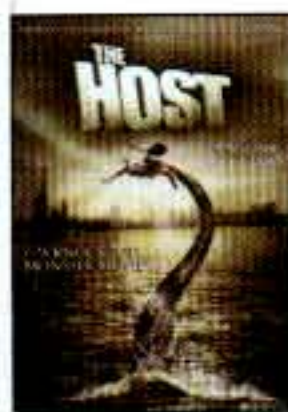


# DVD Debris

BY DAVID FEAR



## THE HOST

MAGNOLIA (2006)

Once upon a time, scientists at an American army base in Seoul dumped chemicals into the local river. Fast-forward to the present, and what should come slithering out of the water but... Korean director Bong Joon-ho's funny, frightening horror movie is the kind of batshit-insane Asian blockbuster you wish Hollywood studios still had the balls to make; after seeing the film's creature tear into a crowd, your response will be something along the lines of "Spielberg who?" The fact that it brings the cultural critique along with the thrills only sweetens the deal. It really is the thinking person's giant-monster-run-amok movie. That's a good thing.



## FLAMING LIPS: UFO'S AT THE ZOO

WARNER HOME VIDEO (2007)

You could never accuse Wayne Coyne & co. of skimping on the spectacle in their live show, and for a 2006 homecoming gig in Oklahoma City, no expenses were spared: fuzzy-wuzzy costumes, Boy-in-the-Bubble crowd-surfing, oversized papier-mâché hands and a descending mothership that would make Parliament-Funkadelic collectively bust a nut. Even by the band's usual birthday-party-on-LSD standards, this concert was a doozy. This DVD doesn't disappoint visually, musically (they play "Love Yer Brain"! ) or any-which-way-ally; whether you need to battle pink robots or blow your skull completely off, the Lips are happy to provide the sonic ray gun.



## ROBOCOP: 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION

MGM (1987)

It sounded like it would be the stupidest movie ever made, right? ("Oh, it's about this dude who gets turned into this *Six-Million-Dollar-Man* police guy. It's the future, so, um, it's like no big deal.") But the way Paul Verhoeven turns this goofy premise into a subversive social satire is nothing short of genius. And if you've ever wanted to see the ultraviolent extended cut or learn everything about the film's making, this two-disc set is like a gift sent from some mythical robo-heaven full of robo-angels. Yes, we know... you'd buy that for a dollar. We figured you were going to say it eventually.



## AIR GUITAR NATION

DOCURAMA (2006)

They came from far and wide, all vying for the title of guitar hero...without any actual guitars? Really? Hells yeah, and if this doc on the competitive *invisible*, six-string circuit proves anything, it's that you don't need a real Flying V to fucking RAWK! Our ridiculously nicknamed heroes, Bjorn Turoque and C-Diddy, are two pretend Yngwies from America perfecting their imaginary neck-slides and windmills for the chance to go to Helsinki for the world finals. You know how insanely awesome this sounds? Trust us, it's even more awesome than that.

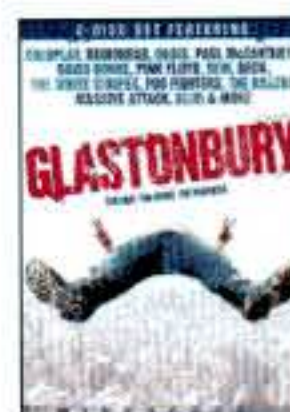


## NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL-STARS - KEEP ON MARCHIN'

SONGS OF THE SOUTH (2007)

There's the Blues—y'know, the kind that legends with names like Blind Willie McTell perfected—the "blooze" (see "Yardbirds, the"), and the kind of diluted boogie mess that only the most solidly stoned Bonnaroo attendees could tolerate. We'll give you

three guesses as to which kind of music this southern-fried trio plays. If this show in Burlington, Vermont, represents the best that these Allman wannabes can come up with, we'd hate to see them on an off night. Never mind the Mississippi Delta references; this is nothing but Snoozeville, U.S.A. jam band nonsense designed for the college dorm demographic. They make Canned Heat seem profound.



## GLASTONBURY

THINKFILM (2006)

The world's premier music festival, Glastonbury has been the subject of many concert docs over the years. Rather than just rehash old footage and greatest-hits moments, Julien "The Filth and the Fury" Temple decides to go the extra mile and turn his tribute into a timeline of England's countercultural tribes. Stinky hippies bump up against liberty-spiked punks and druggy ravers; the cops, naturally, hassle everybody. Yeah, there are brief music clips of Coldplay, the White Stripes, and Foo Fighters rocking crowds (a bonus disc features full performances), but as Temple proves, the annual event is/was as much about the changing crowds as the acts.



## THE JESUS LIZARD - LIVE

MVD (2007)

Brutal. That's the only word that could describe a Jesus Lizard show, especially once frontman David Yow started howling loud enough to exfoliate dead skin. Filmed by some fans at a 1995 show in Boston, this live disc doesn't come close to capturing the group's chaotic charm onstage, though it's nice second-hand (except homeboy should have chilled out on those editorial zooms during "Boilermaker"). If you do want to recreate the true JL experience, throw on the disc and hire a sweaty shirtless guy to jump all over you. Then dump a beer on your head. There, that's more like it.



## ELVIS COSTELLO & THE BRODSKY QUARTET: THE JULIET LETTERS

RHINO (1993)

When Elvis Costello released this collaboration with a string quartet back in 1993, people thought punk's greatest songwriter had lost his marbles: An album based on letters to a Shakespearean heroine, recorded with classical musicians? *Say what?* Time has been very kind to his little chamber-pop experiment, however, and this re-released behind-the-scenes chronicle of the album's birth tells you everything you ever wanted to know about fusing the star's melodic sensibilities to a stuffed-shirt style (but were afraid to ask). Apparently, you can put an ascot on an aging angry-young-man entertainer and he'll still bring his A-game.



## HEAVY PETTING

DOCURAMA (1989)

What was it like the first time you "did it"? (Readers: This is a rhetorical question, please don't write in.) Filmmaker Obie Benz decided to ask a bunch of downtown N.Y.C. hipsters and cool famous people—David Byrne, William S. Burroughs, Laurie Anderson, Abbie Hoffman—to talk about bumping uglies, then intercut the interviews with cheesy '50s public-service-announcement clips. The result is a gold mine of kitsch, but what makes this DVD worth your hard-earned bucks is a second disc full of vintage sex-ed movies with titles like "Perversion for Profit" and "Dance Little Children." Like, eww! **F**