

# DVD Round Up

## Believe

## Hope To See Another Day (Live)

## Metal Minds

In 1994 Polish prog band Collage released *Moonshine* one of the great albums of modern symphonic prog, only to shortly thereafter disband. The main songwriter for the band was Mirek Gil. He later became part of Satellite who equally are making a name for themselves in the prog world. Believe is Mirek's own band, with some help from Satellite bassist Przemysław Zawadzki, and other musicians including a violinist. The guitar solos familiar to both his other bands are still there, although the heavy orchestration is not as obvious. The tracks are all from the album of the same name although in a different order, plus one other track *Memories* from their second album *Yesterday is Friend*.

If you have the CD and enjoyed it, then this would be I guess a must have purchase. Without doubt these are quality songs, with some beautiful violin and keyboard melodies. *Don't Tell Me* is a wonderful track, slow but with a great guitar solo at the end. What is *Love* is a real prog work out, and the twelve minute title track, while not outstanding, is a good track to finish on, again with some excellent guitar work. Filmed well with good camera work, highlighting the musicians to their best advantage. A very enjoyable release, of quality prog with the strong song writing you would expect from Mirek Gil, based on his already excellent pedigree. **SM**

## Joe Cocker Cry Me A River

## Rockpalast

Split across two gigs, Berlin 1980 & Lorely 1983, this DVD features Joe Cocker in fine form. The set list represents a typical Cocker gig with him performing his own inimitable takes on several classic songs and in many cases making the songs his own. *You Are So Beautiful* remains a delicate, spine tingling moment and *With A Little Help From My Friends* is still the only cover of a Beatles song to better the original. 2-hours of classic Joe Cocker. **SM**

## Experience Hendrix

## Sony BMG

This DVD is a collection of highlights from last year's annual Hendrix tribute concerts which took place when in Seattle and San Diego. The concerts featured an array of big names including Double Trouble, Buddy Guy, Buddy Miles, Billy Cox, and Mitch Mitchell. Kenny Wayne Shepherd and Double Trouble's performance of *Voodoo Chile* and Living Colour's *Crosstown Traffic* are particular highlights, and there are notable performances from Paul Rodgers (*Stone Free*) and Eric Gales (*Purple Haze*). The whole cast assemble at the end for *Voodoo Child (Slight Return)* which rounds off an interesting show. **MB**

## Heart Live

## Soul Food/Essential Music

This is yet another series of DVD's of concerts recorded for television. In this case it is from the Soundstage which airs in America. Opening with Ann and Nancy Wilson performing an acoustic *Sand* the two hour show features 23 songs going right back to *Magic Man* and *Crazy On You* from the debut *Dreamboat Annie* and going through to the most recent album *Jupiter's Darling*. It is an intimate show with the crowd lapping up every minute of the performance which rocks with the likes of *Straight On* and *Barracuda* and chills out with a stripped down version of *These Dreams* and covers of Led Zeppelin's *Battle Of Evermore* and Elton John's *Love Song*. There is more Zeppelin at the end as well with *Black Dog* and *Misty Mountain Hop*. Heart fans will love it. **MB**

## Chasing Sound

## The Les Paul Story

## Eagle Vision

Les Paul is undoubtedly one of the key figures in modern music. Not just for his distinctive guitar playing, but also his ideas and inventions. Without him there would be no rock music. It was his invention of a solid bodied guitar that led to the huge development in guitar driven music, quite something when many people thought the electric guitar was going to be a novelty at first. Quite a massive feat in itself, but he is also the person who came up with multi-track recording and overdubbing. He is then of immense influence and importance in music history. Add to that his phenomenally long career playing everything from country to jazz to blues to easy listening. Watching this fascinating DVD you're astonished just what he has accomplished. He played guitar for Bing Crosby, had hit after hit with his wife Mary Ford in the Forties and Fifties, and at the age of ninety three still plays every week at a club in New York.

The DVD release itself is a fine history of the man and his music, and features appearances from the likes of Keith Richards, Steve Miller, Chet Atkins, and many others. It has been televised and so the pacing is good throughout. There are a number of bonus features, including extended interviews, and recordings

from various performances many of which show signs of ageing. A fascinating release from Eagle Rock. **BL**

## Yes The New Director's Cut

## Classic Media Group

This 256 minute, 2-DVD set has two full-length performances of their N.I.A Birmingham and Glastonbury Festival gigs, recorded live during their 35th Anniversary World Tour. The classic line-up of Anderson, Howe, Squire, White and Wakeman deliver favourites like *The Fish*, *Awaken* and *Magnification*. There's behind the scenes footage plus wonderful band anecdotes, including a hilarious story from Rick about a friendly wind-up over

how well his record label treated him.

Anderson enthuses about how he still has plenty of ideas and is keen for Yes to make more great albums. Indeed, they all seem at ease with themselves and each other; masters of their instruments, creating the music they love. **DK**

## REO Speedwagon Live In The Heartland Soulfood and Essential Music

This polished performance of 16 pop-tinged rock-songs, including the well-crafted *Keep On Loving You*, was filmed in 2007 at a Chicago TV studio, giving it a TOTP feel; it was recorded in HD and 5.1 surround sound. Kevin Cronin (lead vocals, guitar), Bruce Hall (bass), Neal Doughty (keys), Dave Amato (lead guitar) and Bryan Hitt (drums) deliver songs from a 35 year career, including their 2007 release, *Find Your Own Way Home*. Extras include Cronin and Doughty talking informatively about their history and song-writing process. I enjoyed *Golden Country* with its Doors-like atmosphere and great Hammond work, plus the rocky *Ridin' The Storm Out*. **DK**

## Sunshine Superman The Journey of Donovan SPV

To say that this release is substantial might be a little bit of an understatement. A sumptuous two-disc set, it covers the life and career of one of the iconic figures of modern music in some detail. From his earliest days, through to his troubadour lifestyle, his comparisons with Dylan, his amazing musical output, everything is covered in great detail. The strength of the programme though is that everything is put into historical context and the comments made by Donovan throughout are as important in that respect as they are about himself. The film includes appearances from Bob Dylan, The Beatles, Jeff Beck, Jimmy Page, Peter Dinklage and lots of others, and includes footage from throughout Donovan's career. All of the man's hits are here, as well as five unreleased songs. There's a wealth of bonus material on the second disc. Donovan himself seems remarkably assured in front of camera and gives well thought and, as would appear, honest opinions. At 315 minutes you're not likely to watch at one sitting, but it is worth staying with, as it is an intriguing story. **JT**

## Tori Amos Live at Montreux 1991 / 1992

## Eagle Vision

The 1992 recording is not only pleasing for the music but also for the way Tori stops in mid song to ask whether certain individuals had come to listen to the music or chatter. She makes the point that many had paid good money to attend the gig before continuing brilliantly with the song. More musicians ought to have the guile to take such action. This is a young Miss Amos bringing her songs to life with simply voice and piano in that awkward sitting position she manages. A Tori Amos gig is a real performance as she brings her songs to life while apparently eye-balling each and every person in the auditorium just in case they ain't paying attention. She is never fearful of dead air where there is complete silence before she moves on to the next lyric or piano note. It's all part of the art form I guess. This is two 45-minute sets where she also adds some interesting covers - again set in her own unique musical mould. Thoroughly entertaining! Remember to pay attention, Tori might be watching you. **MH**

## Neal Morse Sola Scriptura And Beyond Radiant Records

Neal Morse took his Christian prog along to the Netherlands in May last year, and the event was captured here for DVD release. Although the title suggests that the *Sola Scriptura* album is the main feature, that only part of the story as the concert clocks in at just short of three hours and covers a lot of Neal's material and even includes some pieces by Spock's Beard. As you'd expect the music is quite stunning modern prog, with lots of drama and declamatory statements. The young looking band power its way through the

