

THE PSYCHEDELIC CONFESSIONS OF *July* THE HOME OF VINYL

RECORD COLLECTOR

SERIOUS ABOUT MUSIC



THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH

BOWIE'S LOST SOUNDTRACK

SKIDS | PETER ASHER & ALBERT LEE | DARK ON THEIR REMARKABLE RARE LP | EARLY UK 45s
TREVOR RABIN SAYS YES | 80s CASSETTE CULTURE | EUROPSYCH BARGAINS
HUMAN LEAGUE | THE BEST OF 2016 | GOODBYE GREG LAKE | DOORS ALBUM

JANUARY 2017 No 462 £4.40
www.recordcollectormag.com



9 770261 250230

Havana Moon: The Rolling Stones Live In Cuba

★★★★

Eagle Rock (DVD/DVD+2CD/
DVD+3LP)

Lavish chronicle of when the Stones invaded Cuba

After the success of last year's *Totally Stripped*, which framed landmark 1995 shows with band narration and local colour, the Stones revisit the mini-movie concept to cover last year's historic free concert on the island of Cuba, thus proving their relevance while exploring another handy marketing format.

Keith Richards probably has a wheezy one-liner about revolutionary former Cuban president Fidel Castro passing away only months after the Stones finally played his island, but there's no denying the historic magnitude of the event, illustrated by the overwhelming reception from the euphoric crowd. It's hard not to be moved as the camera pans over the million liberated souls laughing or crying in disbelief as the Stones deliver their killer hits set, introduced by Jagger in fluent Spanish, distinguished by heartfelt renditions of the less-often performed Angie and Keith's rousing You Got The Silver.

As their new album so beautifully shows, the Stones are tapping into deep creative seams previously out of reach for rock'n'roll and more in tune with their old blues heroes. Ronnie Wood even deserves his two minutes of hammy pirouetting in the band introductions.

Next up, Desert Storm?
Kris Needs

Sad Vacation: The Last Days Of Sid And Nancy

★★★★

MVD Visual MVD 8479 D

Everyone loses at Chelsea

Sad Vacation's trailer does it absolutely no favours, promising that "between the Chelsea Hotel walls still lies a mystery but at last you'll know the truth through key witnesses and newly released legal documents".

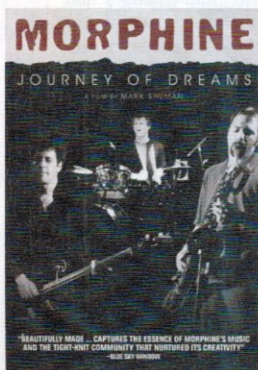
In truth, there's nothing crucial here that wasn't covered in Alan G Parker's documentary *Who Killed Nancy?* (2009), in Joe Stevens' account of Sid confessing to accidentally stabbing Nancy in Jon Savage's *England's Dreaming* (1991), or in on-the-spot



Two-hour set? Up your game! Castro used to give us eight hours on agricultural targets

articles from October 1978's *Soho Weekly News* (available online, as are the police reports relating to the case).

Nevertheless, this remains a well-presented, absorbing account of Sid and Nancy's final months, not glossing over the well-documented negatives, but balancing these with more positive stories shared by friends from Sid's pre-fame days and Nancy's initial arrival on the Dolls-era New York City punk scene, and by establishing early on that both had survived deeply troubled childhoods. The film also scores with detailed coverage of Sid's increasingly erratic behaviour on the Pistols' US tour and his time on bail in New York, interviewing friends he confided in and revisiting the incident at a Skafish gig which led to another arrest. Never mind the trailer!
Rich Davenport



Morphine: Journey Of Dreams

★★★★

MVD Visual MVD 9693 D

Don't dream, it's over

Eschewing electric guitars for saxophone, minimal drum kit

and a customised, two-string slide bass, Boston trio Morphine exuded the smoky, noir-esque cool of jazz, yet their primal "low rock" was louder and edgier than most of their alt.rock competitors.

Driven by an insatiable work ethic, the Boston-based trio's relentless overseas tour schedule rewarded them with a sizeable European fanbase, but their career was tragically curtailed when frontman Mark Sandman suffered a fatal heart attack onstage at an Italian festival in July 1999.

Sandman's ghost thus inevitably looms large over *Journey Of Dreams*: an affecting and insightful documentary directed by Mark Shuman, which follows the arc of the Massachusetts trio's decade-long career. Compiled primarily from detailed interviews with Morphine's remaining members and key insiders, including Sandman's girlfriend Sabine Hrechdakian and band manager Deborah Klein, it lifts the lid on Sandman's nomadic early life and his pre-Morphine outfit Treat Her Right, but concentrates primarily on the making of Morphine's five studio LPs and the events leading up to their fateful final show.

Further strengthened by the inclusion of vintage live footage and hypnotic extracts from saxophonist Dana Colley's tour diaries, *Journey Of Dreams* makes for an evocative tribute to a vastly underrated outfit who, as superfan Henry Rollins so sagely notes, "you should always keep in your arsenal".
Tim Peacock

Iain Matthews: Live At Rockpalast – Hamburg 1983

★★★★

Made In Germany MIG 90672
(DVD+2CD)

The Hamburg effect

Fans of new-wave and power-pop take note; this set brims with more sharp, snappy songs than you can shake a stick at. Stick shaking is, of course, more closely associated with folk dancing, as the Iain Matthews filmed here leading a spirited three-guitar charge through 17 smartly crafted numbers is the same chap whose vocals graced the first two Fairport Convention albums and Matthew's Southern Comfort's hit take on Woodstock.

As the 70s drew to a close, a savvy producer suggested Matthews infuse his songs with a more energetic feel. Accused of bandwagon-jumping, Matthews had actually recorded similar material back in 1968; Time Will Show The Wiser on Fairport's debut album isn't too far from what's on offer here, the likes of Nine O'Clock, Blue Shirt (with hints of Cheap Trick) and She May Call You Up Tonight (prime single material) are just faster and slicker. You can't argue with good songs, and this Hamburg audience demanded encores until the band had no choice but to succumb. A rewarding reminder of an atypical, but highly enjoyable period in Matthews' career.
Tristan Shout

Santana IV: Live At The House Of Blues, Las Vegas

★★★★

Eagle Rock EREDV 1244
(DVD+2CD)

Black magic evening

The classic line-up of Santana bowed out earlier (1971) and took a longer leave of absence than many of their peers, reconvening for 2016's *Santana IV*, with key members Carlos Santana, Gregg Rolie (keys, vocals), Michael Shrieve (drums), Michael Carabello (congas) and Neal Schon (guitar, recruited for *Santana III*) joined by players from Carlos' current band.

Any fears of tarnishing their legacy were allayed by the resulting album, and *Live At The House Of Blues* (recorded March 2016) sees them refusing to coast on their past live reputation, delivering an intense performance across a mammoth 24-song set featuring no less than 13 tracks from *Santana IV*, which hold up remarkably well alongside the songs with which they made their name.

Their blend of blues, rock, Latin, jazz and African influences hasn't dated, and the chemistry between the players remains sharp, watching each other closely to spur on improvisational embellishments, the jamming adding a fresh edge to staples like Soul Sacrifice, Samba Pa Ti and putting the new material through its paces, Santana and Schon's trade-offs on Echigo and Shake It among the many highlights. Well worth the wait!
Rich Davenport