



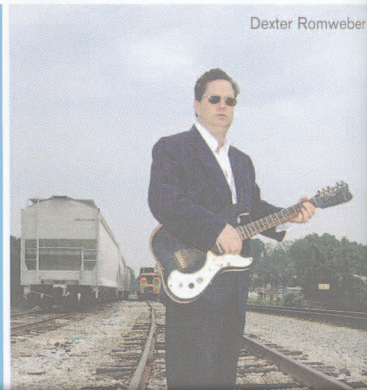
Magnet Magazine

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WEBER

...ing various demons. Cody recalls see-
show up in Los Angeles to continue
sn't broken, but his spirit wasn't the
when we filmed years ago. With Dexter,
s this wild spirit that you felt come off



Dexter Romweber

It was 1986. Gayton and partners Bill Cody and Lisa Fincannon were making *Athens, Ga.: Inside/Out*, a doc-

...new footage, shot in New Orleans and Los Angeles, Romweber openly discusses his "semi-psy-
chotic spiritual odyssey." He allows the camera to see him take an array of prescription drugs for his depres-

ANALYZE THIS The "Under Review" DVD Series

MVD Entertainment Group continues to release numerous titles in its *Under Review* series. The bands getting the *Under Review* treatment of late include the Smiths, Radiohead, Nirvana, Joy Division, Captain Beefheart, the Rolling Stones, Syd Barrett, David Bowie and AC/DC. MAGNET checked out a handful of the titles and found that these pleasing documentaries provide a good starting point on a variety of influential bands and performers.

First thing, the *Under Review* titles are billed as a review and critical analysis of the bands, so don't expect concert films, collections of music videos or 13-hour Ken Burns-style theatrics. The DVDs, most of which run around 90 minutes, are skillful assemblages of archival photos, concert snippets and new interviews with various backing musicians and other so-called experts. Just don't expect fresh interviews with, say, Don Van Vliet (a.k.a. Captain Beefheart).

The Velvet Underground DVD is the best of the bunch, thanks in part to fascinating interviews with Moe Tucker (who explains why the drums stop for a moment during "Heroin") and undervalued John Cale replacement Doug Yule. The film also features cool promo clips, footage from Andy Warhol's private collection and interviews with everyone from Luna's Dean Wareham to music critic Robert Christgau. The Beefheart DVD is worth it for the music alone, not to mention the 1966 clip of a TV performance of the band's "Diddy Wah Diddy" cover.

Nitpickers will find things to gripe about. For instance, in black-and-white footage of downtown Manhattan marked 1964-1966 in the *Velvets* film, the World Trade Center is seen in the background. (The North Tower wasn't completed until 1970.) In any event, you're in it to learn more about the artists. And you will.

—J.E.



The Velvet Underground

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