



Fulvue Drive-in

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- > Robert Conrad Double Feature (Live A Little, Steal A Lot (aka Murph The Surf (1975) + Sudd
- > Trooper & The Legend Of The Golden Key (2011/E1 DVD)/12 Dogs Of Christmas: Great Puppy Res
- > Happy Endings – The Complete Second Season (2011 – 2012/Sony DVD Set)
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- > 247°[Degrees]F (Anchor Bay Blu-ray/all 2012)
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- > Beatles Stories (2012/Cinema Libre DVD)/Circle Jerks: My Career As A Jerk (2012/MVD DVD)/Freddie Mercury: The Great Pretender (2012/Eagle Blu-ray)/Gary Moore: Blues For Jimi (2012/Eagle Blu-ray)/The G
- > Heart Of Christmas (2011/Image DVD)/Martha & Friends Holiday Collection (2012/Gaiam Vivend
- > Bonanza – The Official Fourth Season, Volume One + Volume Two (1962 – 1963/CBS DVDs)/The Ice House (1997/BBC DVD)/Kidnap & Ransom: Complete Series 1 & 2 (2010 – 2012/Acorn Media DVDs)/The Kingdom: Sea
- > Vexed: Series One (2010)/Waterloo Road: Series 1 (2006/Acorn DVDs)
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## Funkytown (2011/Wolfe DVD)/Play In The Gray (2012/Planted Seeds DVD)

Picture: C/C+ Sound: B-/C+ Extras: C-/C Main Programs: C+/B-

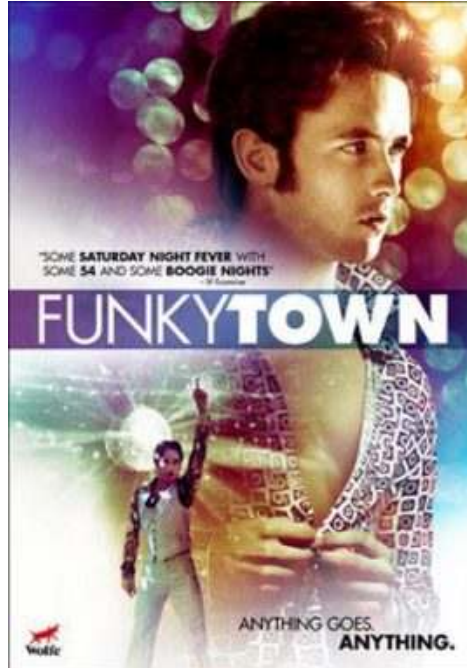
Now for some gay-themed releases that are among the more interesting of late.

Daniel Roby's **Funkytown** (2011) wants to be the backstory of the Disco era in Canada, but it is more Americanized than it should be and not only as ineffective as the current shorter theatrical cut of **54** but no match for Whit Stillman's **Last Days Of Disco** (reviewed on Criterion Blu-ray elsewhere on this site) though the cast here is not bad and some moments work. Unfortunately, this becomes predictable, formulaic and never totally feels or looks like the 1976 and onward.

Some of the songs are not the originals as we know them, so that does not help (are they Canadian covers?) and when it was all done, I still did not feel like I learned or experienced anything I had not before save some places in Montreal and the like which play well enough here. Those curious or interested could still give it a look, but just don't have high expectations. A trailer is the only extra.

Kaitlin Meelia's documentary **Play In The Gray** (2012) fares better in telling us about the all lesbian/all female performance troop All The King's Men playing various characters on stage and gives us the behind-the-scenes story of how the performers united to become a success. It also tells us more about them as individuals, more insight into being lesbian today and is so good at this that it also lands up exploring sexuality in society including heterosexuality by default because the interviewees are delving deep to tell us about some interesting things.

They are also good on stage and have some talent which will impress more than you might think if you expect their work to only be for a narrow audience. It also reminds us of the importance of live stage work now more than ever in this electronic, video and Internet age. There is little in the ways of politics here, especially because they are talking about characters and character, The result is the best lesbian title I have seen in a while as well as best gay documentary in a while. 13 bonus clips are the extras.



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 > The Cup (2010/Lionsgate DVD)/For One Night (2005/Lifetime DVD)/The Sound & The Fury (1959/Fox/Twilight Time Limited Edition Blu-ray)/Sunday Bloody Sunday (1971/MGM/United Artists/Criterion Blu-ray)

### IN STORES NOW


> Phenomenon (1996/Touchstone Blu-ray)  
 > Hunt (2010/aka The Hunt/MVD DVD)  
 > Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles – The Complete 10th and Final Season (1996/Lionsgate DVD Set)  
 > Batman: The Dark Knight Returns – Part 1 (2012/Warner Premiere/DC Comics Blu-ray)  
 > Dexter – The Complete Sixth Season (2011/Showtime Blu-ray)  
 > Fringe – The Complete Fourth Season (2011 – 2012/Warner Blu-ray)  
 > The Scar Crow (2009/MVD DVD)  
 > Holy Flying Circus (2011/Acorn Media Blu-ray)  
 > Resident Evil: Damnation (2012/Computer Animated/Sony Blu-ray) + Resident Evil: Retribution (2012/Titan Books Paperback Adaptation by John Shirley)  
 > Sister Act (1992) + Sister Act 2 (1993/Disney Blu-ray + DVD)  
 > The Good Wife – Season 3 (2011 – 2012/CBS DVD Set)  
 > Night Of The Living Dead (1990/21st Century Pictures/Columbia/Sony/Twilight Time Limited Edition Blu-ray)  
 > The Beatles: Magical Mystery Tour (1967/Apple Corp/EMI Blu-ray)  
 > Dark Shadows (2012/Warner Blu-ray w/DVD)  
 > Rock Of Ages: Extended Edition (2012/Warner Blu-ray w/DVD)

The anamorphically enhanced 2.35 X 1 image on **Funkytown** is stylized down and decolorated a bit, which is not the look of that period, but this disc is particularly softer than it should be just the same and disappoints overall, while the anamorphically enhanced 1.78 X 1 image on **Gray** is far from it with a regular color range throughout and better overall picture playback despite being a location video production.

Both releases have lossy Dolby Digital sound, but **Funkytown** has a 5.1 mix that has some consistent surrounds throughout, so its sound design is just fine, while the 2.0 Stereo on **Gray** is good, professional, well-edited and has few location audio issues.

- Nicholas Sheffo

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