

REISSUES

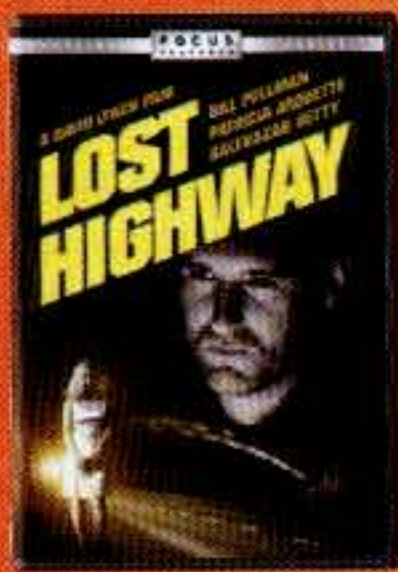


**THE ADVENTURES OF BARON MUNCHAUSEN: 20TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION (1988)**

(Sony Pictures Home Entertainment)

Genre: Fantasy

**Plot:** Baron Munchausen (Canadian stage actor John Neville) interrupts a touring stage production of his life in order to clear up its inaccuracies for the audience, spinning, in the process, ever more outrageous tales. **Verdict:** Given director Terry Gilliam's notorious difficulties funding his films in recent years, it seems incredible that Columbia actually gave him a reported \$46 million to make this fantasy film (the original budget was half that). But budget aside, Gilliam succeeds in capturing the wonders of imagination, and his cast – including Uma Thurman, Robin Williams and a nine-year-old Sarah Polley – is wonderful. **Key extras:** Commentary with Gilliam and co-writer/actor Charles McKeown, 'The Madness and Misadventures of Munchausen', storyboard sequences with all-new vocal performances by Gilliam and McKeown



**LOST HIGHWAY (1997)**

(Universal Home Entertainment)

Genres: Noir, Horror, Thriller

**Plot:** Hard to describe. Bill Pullman plays Fred, a jazz saxophonist jealous of his beautiful wife Renee (Patricia Arquette).

In jail for her murder, Fred turns into a young auto mechanic named Peter (Balthazar Getty). Freed from jail, Peter becomes involved with his crime boss client's girlfriend Alice (also played by Arquette). Did we mention this was a David Lynch film? Did we need to?

**Verdict:** This is one of Lynch's best films: mysterious, erotic, unknowable, compulsively rewatchable. He and co-screenwriter Barry Gifford (*Wild At Heart*) graft Lynch's quirky and disturbing surreal creative process onto the traditional film noir. And Patricia Arquette is perfectly cast as the femme fatale.

**Soundtrack:** Composed by Nine Inch Nails' Trent Reznor

**Extra:** 10-Part Multi-Angle Interview with David Lynch



**HAROLD & KUMAR GO TO WHITE CASTLE: EXTREME UNRATED REMASTERED (2004)**

(Alliance Home Entertainment)

Genre: Comedy

**Plot:** Harold (John Cho) and

Kumar (Kal Penn) get stoned and aim to satisfy their hunger with some White Castle burgers, but their quest is interrupted by racists, college girls and Neil Patrick Harris.

**Verdict:** Still a funny flick, but this package is a bit of a cash grab considering that the "Extreme Unrated" edition came out in '05. Credit this double dip to the impending sequel, *Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay*.

**Extras:** 'The Art of the Fart – Sound Featurette', 'Back Seat Interview' with John Cho and Kal Penn, actor & filmmaker commentaries, sneak peek of *Guantanamo*

**ROCK OF LOVE: THE COMPLETE FIRST SEASON**

(Anchor Bay Entertainment)

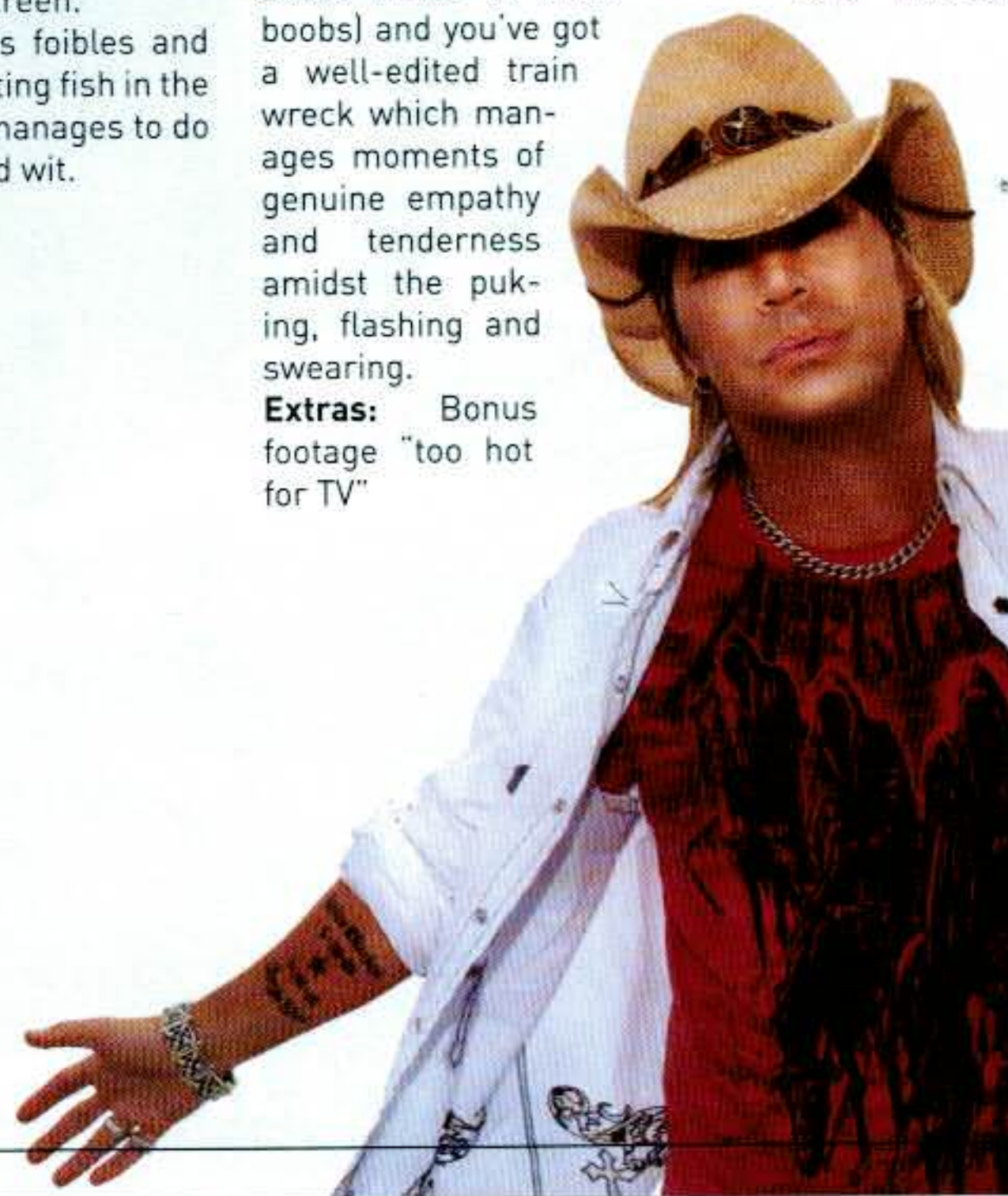
Genre: Reality

**The idea:** Bret Michaels, the 43-year-old singer with '80s hair metal band Poison, tries to find love among 25 women competing for his attentions. But who will be the one to supplant Bret's first love, that "insatiable bitch goddess" known as rock & roll?

**The reality:** *Rock of Love* is another in the dating/reality genre already crowded by the likes of *A Shot At Love With Tila Tequila*, *I Love New York* and *Flava Of Love*, and it's one of the most addictive. Michaels is charming and clever, and the contestants are incredibly entertaining in their various levels of vacuity, vanity and self-deception. Throw alcohol into the mix alongside self-opinions that are as inflated as their breasts (the girls come to a consensus early on that only about three of them have natural

boobs) and you've got a well-edited train wreck which manages moments of genuine empathy and tenderness amidst the puking, flashing and swearing.

**Extras:** Bonus footage "too hot for TV"



TV



**HOTEL BABYLON**

(BBC America/Warner Home Entertainment)

**What's It About?:** The steamy escapades of staff and guests at a high class London hotel, exposing a world of hedonism and excess. Guest appearances by Joan Collins and Anthony Stewart Head highlight

this eight-part series on three discs. Think of the old *Hotel* series, only British and a lot sexier.

**Key extras:** 'The Making of *Hotel Babylon*', commentary on Episode One



**THE FESTIVAL**

(IFC)

Genre: Mockumentary

**The idea:** An Independent Film Channel (IFC) film crew follows idealist first-time filmmaker Rufus Marquez (Nicholas Wright) to the Mountain United Film

Festival (MUFF) where he is hoping to nail down a distribution deal for his feature *The Unreasonable Truth of Butterflies*. Along the way, he has to deal with showboating actors, frenzied festival employees and the inflated egos that go along with getting a movie onto the big screen.

**Verdict:** Poking fun at Hollywood's foibles and indie film's pretensions is like shooting fish in the proverbial barrel, but *The Festival* manages to do it with a modicum of cleverness and wit.

**Extras:** Making of, gag reel, trailer

STRAIGHT TO DVD



**RICHARD KERN: EXTRA ACTION (AND EXTRA Hardcore)**

(MVD)

Genres: Art, Porn, Experimental

**Who is Richard Kern?:** A "transgressive" New York filmmaker who has worked with the likes of Sonic Youth, Marilyn Manson, Henry Rollins and Lydia Lunch.

**Content:** Kern's film is one long montage of 60 attractive young female New Yorkers getting undressed and doing, "something interesting for a few minutes." Better lit and mostly sexier than conventional porn, *Extra Action (and Extra Hardcore)* benefits from an original score by Thurston Moore of Sonic Youth (although the repetition of three "movements" gets a bit maddening) and the unconventional looks of his performers relative to mainstream "adult" material. Think raunchier *Suicide Girls* with fewer tats and piercings.

**Extra:** Previously unreleased Kern short films, including 'Nazi', 'Goodbye 42nd Street' and 'Catholic'