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**Marc Almond: Live at the Lokerse Feesten 2000 (Charly/MVD Visual DVD, NR, 103 min.).**

Filmed Aug. 7, 2000 in Belgium (the concert portion is 72 minutes long), this show captures the singing half of Soft Cell in a unique moment of his successful solo career. He opens the show with relatively unknown material: "One Big Soul" from the 1998 sessions for the album "Open All Night," then three songs from the album itself, including the more propulsive "Black Kiss" (an homage to Macumba), the bouncy little "My Love" (an ode to an ex-lover with loots of keyboards) and the album's title track. Within the next portion of the show, Almond does three songs from his "Fantastic Star" album ("Love To Die For," "Child Star" and "The Idol"). Almond really is a torch singer (a la Frank Sinatra's late-night saloon songs) and shines on "My Hand Over My Heart," with its swaying beat. Two of his solo hits follow: the very melodic "Something's Gotten Hold on My Heart," which topped the UK charts in 1989, and his remake of the upbeat 1960s song "The Days of Pearly Spencer," which reached No. 4 in 1992.

Throughout, Almond is dramatic with his hand gestures, but never more so than on the Spanish-flavored "A Lover Spurned." He ends the solid show by singing three Soft Cell hits: "Bedsitter," "Tainted Love" and "Say Hello, Wave Goodbye." DVD extras include an exclusive interview with Almond, as well as his biography and discography. **Grade: A-**

By Tom Von Malder