

indiscriminately absorbed influences that include traditional folk, baroque pop, '70s' soft rock and the complete works of Steven Patrick Morrissey. While this mid-Manhattan performance would showcase the group's winsome live presence and careless sense of humor, most of the more poignant tunes retained their enchanting intimacy. Highlights of the night included an unhinged rendition of **The Crane Wife's** "Culling of the Fold" (spontaneously broadcast through an audience member's cell phone), a guitar solo played using a peacock feather, and a dancing, life-size cutout of our new president.—Spencer Tricker

### David Bennett Cohen

Learn to Play Blues Piano—DVD 3:

Boogie-Woogie and Slow Blues

Learn to Play Blues Piano—DVD 4:

New Orleans Style Made Easy

(Homespun)

Keyboard player and teacher David Bennett Cohen is a veteran of the New York City blues piano scene. In addition to being Country Joe & the Fish's longtime pianist, Cohen has established a niche making educational piano videos for Homespun that cater to beginners and advanced students alike.

On **Boogie-Woogie and Slow Blues**, Cohen takes two pieces, "Pinetop's Boogie Woogie" and an original, "Blues for a Summer's Dream," and dissects them, providing detailed explanations as he breaks them down. The key to his clear explanations is perfect camera angles from above the keyboard

that show exactly which notes are being played and what hand positions are used to play them. He also clearly distinguishes between major and minor blues scales, giving examples of them in different keys. Sheet music is included.

On **New Orleans Style Made Easy**, Cohen takes things a step further. Dismantling "Georgia On My Mind," he explains how to play over chord changes before using his own "Crawfish Royale" to demonstrate the New Orleans playing style. His changes are more complicated, but with the assistance of clear overhead shots and precise verbal instructions, the technique remains clear. Cohen moves at an unhurried pace as he demonstrates the changing hand positions, switching between diminished, augmented, and sharp ninth chords (not to mention rolling tenths and Fats Domino feels).

Overall, Cohen's approach is conversational and low-key. Combined with clear pictures of the keyboard, this makes for a highly accessible resource well suited to both beginning and intermediate students.—Dave Keyes

### Hannes Rossacher

Sunshine Superman: The Journey of Donovan DVD

(SPV Recordings)

This is a huge work: emotionally, culturally and just in the huge amount of stuff here. If you are interested in the phenomenon that was the '60s, **Donovan** is one major piece of the puzzle—he was pervasive, everywhere, the background of our lives. Moments would happen, and

later you'd remember that a Donovan song was playing at the time.

This film is intense. I guess I should mention that it is very long, so you must care about the subject matter. But for anyone who likes Donovan, or cares about the counterculture in any way, it is a goldmine. We have gotten the Beatles' perspective, and Dylan's, and of course the Stones have been heard from, and these views have become the standard take on what happened. Now we get another peek at the same scenes, slightly off-center, and they definitely don't look the same. Carnaby Street, the '65 Dylan tour, Rishikesh with the Beatles, the English police, all from Donovan's point of view. Suddenly tunes like "The Trip," "Season of the Witch" and of course "Sunshine Superman" all take on a different color. There's a whole section about "Sunny Goodge Street." Wild stuff, mate.

This picture is chock full of songs, clips of the Beautiful People, things you thought you knew, things you never knew. And there is another DVD stuffed with music videos, interviews, unreleased songs, Donovan's dad reading poetry (like any good Celtic dad), personal stuff, the works. If you don't really know Donovan, this might be a lot, but for a fan it's great. And if you've just discovered Donovan, and fallen in love with that vibe, it's pure Nectar.

—Robin the Hammer



the warmth, sincerity and simplicity of "Moonshadow," "Miles From Nowhere" and "Longer Boats" will find themselves as rapt and appreciative as the small studio audience. The DVD also includes the short Stevens-animated children's film **Teaser and the Firecat**, narrated by British comedy legend Spike Milligan.

—Mike Jurkovic

### Fujiya & Miyagi

Paradise, Boston, MA

You'll very much enjoy spending an evening with krautrock revivalists Fujiya & Miyagi. The Brighton, UK foursome produce a sound that is sparse and repetitive, yet enveloping and engaging.

Worthy of comparison to band-professed influences like Can and Serge Gainsbourg, an evening with Fujiya & Miyagi feels like stepping into a time-war... but better. With the subtlest of tweaks, and the slightest edge of funk, F&M manage to make creative headway in a time-stamped genre. Originally

the brainchild of guitarist/vocalist David Best (Fujiya) and synth-master Steve Lewis (Miyagi), the former duo now sport rock-steady bassist Matt Hainsby and sometimes-drummer Lee Adams.

Live, as on their first full-length release, **Transparent Things**, the bass carries the bulk of the melodic weight, fusing a funky vibe with a rigidly accurate execution. The synths, tidily restrained and atmospheric, play lightly in the space left by the other instruments. Best's guitar work is similarly sparse but never boring. The drumbeats are half-man, half-machine, and it's often hard to tell the difference without looking to see if Adams is onstage. Everything is straight twos and fours, appropriately tidy with only slight embellishments.

The final piece in the puzzle is Best's vocal work, his steady cadence and repeated lines fitting beautifully with the instrumentation. His soft, almost-whispered tone maintains the subtle, calming atmosphere, and an occasional rolled "r" adds a nice touch. Fujiya & Miyagi apply a live energy and creativity to a style that

### Cat Stevens

A Classic Concert: Tea For The Tillerman Live DVD

(Wienerworld/MVD Visual)

Before abandoning the pop star life in 1977 to convert to Islam, Cat Stevens sold millions of albums worldwide and stood foremost among the ranks of era-defining singer/songwriters. In June 1971, as "Wild World" gained hit single status in America, Stevens and his musical cohorts—guitarist Alun Davies and bassist/percussionist Larry Steele—set up in LA's KCET studios for this brief but revealing eight-song performance. Those seasoned enough to remember

