

THE ROLLING STONES

Under Review 1962 - 1966



An Independent Critical Analysis

Under Review - David Bowie and The Berlin Trilogy (MVD)

There was a time, before everyone and his sister were releasing compact discs, when a pop star could turn the world absolutely upside down with a new album. Such was the case with David Bowie's *Low*, first dropped on an unsuspecting public in January 1976. Two sides neatly divided between fractured Germanic funk fragments on side one, and eerie, portentous futurist soundscapes on the other. It was like nothing ever released before by a major pop star, and critics fell all over themselves declaring it to be Bowie's auto-da-fe. Time has shown that *Low* and its even more ambitious follow ups, *Heroes* and *Lodger*, have been enormously influential in guiding and, to a very large extent, shaping both popular and rock mu-

DAVID BOWIE

Under Review 1976 - 1979: The Berlin Trilogy



AN INDEPENDENT CRITICAL ANALYSIS

Limited Collector's Edition

sic. Whether or not you believe that, this documentary makes a strong case for it, whilst providing an entertaining look at Bowie and his collaborators - Brian Eno, Iggy Pop, Tony Visconti. Perhaps, "entertaining" is not quite the word for Bowie, as he was suffering from the ravages of cocaine addiction during the early gestation of *Low* (he and Iggy decamped to Berlin together to help each other kick their respective habits), and he "appears" here only in snippets of concert footage and audio taped conversations. But by journey's end - and *Lodger* did just that, taking you all over the world sampling various pop styles - you'll find yourself anything but bored, more like an exhausted sojourner in a strange and exotic land.

The Sadies - Tales of the Rat Fink (Original Soundtrack)

No need to tell you that this is the soundtrack to the superstocked documentary about legendary wacko car designer and Revell hobby-kit maker, Ed "Big Daddy" Roth. What we need to let you in on is how this alt.country band has managed to meld the influences of Link Wray, Dick Dale and Duane Eddy, and pump out this twangy, reverb-drenched uber surf album. Check that - there are some groovy gasers, i.e., hot rod intros so turbocharged