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Pages

- [About BNN](#)
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Music DVD Review: David Bowie – *The Plastic Soul Review*

This post was written by zzsimonb on 2 July, 2007 (14:33) | [All News](#), [Reviews](#), [Movie Reviews](#), [Music Reviews](#)
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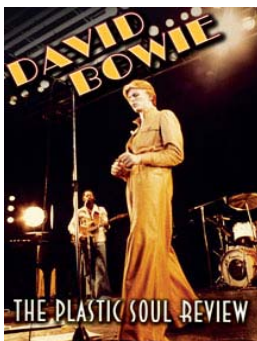
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There are as many genres of music as there are bands and artists that perform them, well at least that is the way it seems. I was mildly amused when I popped this DVD in the player and discovered yet a new genre, 'Plastic Soul'. David Bowie has been labeled as rock, glam, gay, straight, in fact this guy has more labels than Heinz soups, but Plastic Soul was a new one on me. The mid 1970's was a true stew pot of music styles and David Bowie was one of the people stirring it. You didn't have to like him, but you certainly knew his name. His music style seemed to be as eclectic as his lifestyle. You just never knew what was going to be in the newspapers next. Although you could pretty much guarantee that it would be scandalous! Drugs, booze, sexual orientation, and they all made the inside pages of the popular tabloids.

What David Bowie is though, is a superb musician, and this documentary looks at Bowie during the Diamond Dogs phase of his career. Coming off the high of Ziggy Stardust which was without doubt the apex of glam rock, his musical style did indeed change. This DVD explores the David Live, Young Americans, and Station To Station phase of his career. While maybe he did touch on some aspects more traditionally associated with the soul movement, I personally have to disagree with the experts, he was not the 'white soul man' that some would claim. His style did start to incorporate more horn in the backing sound, and his vocals took a more down home direction, he was not the white Motown that the critics would claim.

Based on the 'critics' used and the overall style this is yet another from the very successful 'In Review' series. You may not, and probably will not agree with what the experts say, but I can guarantee that it is thought provoking. For my taste this had a little too much pontificating, and not quite enough of David Bowie strutting his stuff. Bowie is hard to pigeon hole, and even these experts are at odds with each other about his musical direction and deeper meaning.

I enjoyed this critical look at an icon of the pop world. He was not one of my favorites at the time, but he certainly has left his mark on the music scene. Being older and (maybe) wiser I can look back at David Bowie and appreciate his contribution to the music world.

You can get be your own critic by getting a copy from [MVD](#).

Simon Barrett

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Blogosphere News (713)

Breaking News (1314)

Business News (508)

[Automotive News](#) (44)

[Company News](#) (132)

[Stock Market News](#) (23)

Country News (871)

[Australia News](#) (119)

[Canada News](#) (156)

[China News](#) (181)

[France News](#) (126)

[Gambia News](#) (436)

[Germany News](#) (362)

[India News](#) (542)

[Iraq News](#) (158)

[Israel News](#) (76)

[Mexico News](#) (28)

[Philippines News](#) (71)

[Russia News](#) (94)

[Spain News](#) (50)

[Sudan News](#) (17)

[UK News](#) (414)

[US News](#) (1776)

Economic News (417)

Education News (339)

Entertainment (681)

[Celebrity News](#) (490)

[Literary News](#) (168)

[Movie News](#) (330)

[Music News](#) (223)

[TV News](#) (276)

Government News (813)

[US Government News](#) (676)

[Congressional News](#) (433)

[Presidential News](#) (292)

[Supreme Court News](#) (66)

Humor (369)

Interview (58)

Iraq War (403)

Odd News (319)

Regional News (814)

[African News](#) (651)

[Asian News](#) (586)

[European News](#) (481)

[Middle Eastern News](#) (246)

[North American News](#) (430)

[Oceania News](#) (41)

[South American News](#) (36)

Religious News (282)

[Son Jong Nam](#) (4)

Reviews (388)

[Book Reviews](#) (206)

[Movie Reviews](#) (188)

[Coming soon](#) (31)

[Music Reviews](#) (113)

[Other-Non Media](#) (8)

[Theater Reviews](#) (2)

Science News (331)

[Archeology & Antiquities
News](#) (23)

[Environmental News](#) (177)

[History News](#) (84)

[Medical News](#) (406)

[Research News](#) (239)

[Space News](#) (55)

[Technology News](#) (339)

Society and Culture

(1188)

Sports News (134)

[Baseball News](#) (48)

[Basketball News](#) (10)

[Football News](#) (32)

[International Sport](#) (20)

[Olympic Coverage](#) (9)

[Soccer News](#) (7)

State News (153)

[Alabama News](#) (8)

[Alaska News](#) (11)

[Arizona News](#) (41)

[Arkansas News](#) (6)

[California News](#) (100)

[Colorado News](#) (20)

[Connecticut News](#) (26)

[Delaware News](#) (5)

[Florida News](#) (48)

[Georgia News](#) (32)

[Hawaii News](#) (8)

[Idaho News](#) (10)

[Illinois News](#) (64)

[Indiana News](#) (11)

[Iowa News](#) (11)

[Kansas News](#) (8)

[Kentucky News](#) (9)

[Louisiana News](#) (24)
[Maine News](#) (6)
[Maryland News](#) (11)
[Massachusetts News](#) (38)
[Michigan News](#) (62)
[Minnesota News](#) (17)
[Mississippi News](#) (8)
[Missouri News](#) (19)
[Montana News](#) (8)
[Nebraska News](#) (5)
[Nevada News](#) (18)
[New Hampshire News](#) (11)
[New Jersey News](#) (39)
[New Mexico News](#) (21)
[New York News](#) (71)
[North Carolina News](#) (32)
[North Dakota News](#) (12)
[Ohio News](#) (33)
[Oklahoma News](#) (10)
[Oregon News](#) (8)
[Pennsylvania News](#) (82)
[Rhode Island News](#) (6)
[South Carolina News](#) (10)
[South Dakota News](#) (7)
[Tennessee News](#) (9)
[Texas News](#) (50)
[Utah News](#) (8)
[Vermont News](#) (5)
[Virginia News](#) (38)
[Washington News](#) (25)
[Washington, DC News](#) (50)
[West Virginia News](#) (6)
[Wisconsin News](#) (12)
[Wyoming News](#) (5)

US Politics (757)

[2006 Election Coverage](#)
(217)
[2008 Election Coverage](#)
(258)
[Abortion](#) (39)
[Civil Rights](#) (135)
[Gay Marriage](#) (41)
[Second Amendment News](#)
(32)
[The War on Drugs](#) (28)
[The War on Terror](#) (491)

Weather (51)

World Politics (357)

[The Iranian Nuclear Crisis](#)
(69)
[The Korean Nuclear Crisis](#)
(55)
[The United Nations](#) (211)

Archive

July 2007 (445)
June 2007 (886)
May 2007 (820)
April 2007 (680)
March 2007 (676)

[February 2007](#) (587)

[January 2007](#) (733)

[December 2006](#) (798)

[November 2006](#) (970)

[October 2006](#) (1231)

[Before 10/2006](#)

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