



"Under Review 1964-1974," Van Morrison (Sexy Intellectual)

(4½ stars)

Very few artists have been as individualistic and identifiable as Van Morrison since he first emerged on the national stage in the early 1960s, singing "Gloria" with THEM. That song began an unparalleled decade of creativity that Morrison hasn't equaled since, and this mid-April DVD documents those days along with the incendiary live shows, songwriting and creative processes.

I must admit to being aware of Van only after hearing his first solo hit, "Brown Eyed Girl," but I followed along faithfully after that until after the wonderful "Tupelo Honey" album, though I didn't own many long-players ("Moondance," "Astral Weeks" and others) until more recently on CD.

Despite a couple of misfires noted by the critics and analysts here, these are the songs most folks really cherish when they think of Van the Man. Get your copy of this far-ranging DVD at local video/music stores or shop online at www.mvdvisual.com.

- Ricky Flake