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## All You Need Is Love

Score: **90%**  
Rating: **Not Rated**  
Publisher: **MVD Entertainment Group**  
Region: **A**  
Media: **DVD/5**  
Running Time: **14 Hrs., 45 Mins.**  
Genre: **Mini-series/Documentary/Live Performance**  
Audio: **Digitally Remastered Stereo Sound**  
Subtitles: **None**

### Features:

#### Episodes:

- 1: Introduction
- 2: God's Children - The Beginning
- 3: I can Hypnotise 'Dis Nation - Ragtime
- 4: Jungle Music - Jazz
- 5: Who's That Comin'? - Blues
- 6: Rude Songs - Vaudeville & Music Hall
- 7: Always Chasing Rainbows - Tin Pan Alley
- 8: Diamonds As Big As The Ritz - The Musical
- 9: Swing That Music! - Swing
- 10: Good Times - Rhythm & Blues
- 11: Making Moonshine - Country Music
- 12: Go Down, Moses! - Songs of War & Protest
- 13: Hail! Hail! Rock N' Roll! - Rock
- 14: Mighty God - The Beatles
- 15: All Along The Watchtower - Sour Rock
- 16: Whatever Gets You Through The Night - Glitter Rock
- 17: Imagine - New Directions

Tony Palmer's series, **All You Need Is Love**, is a big, beautiful mess of a doc. Tracing the story of popular music or purporting to, this collection of 17 episodes of music is probably the best film about music you'll ever watch. The difficult thing that can be said is how the Seventies were a transitional time for music. The musicians of the previous era were dead or disenchanted for the most part by the time **All You Need Is Love** was made. The fascinating portraits of older jazz and blues musicians would be impossible since they're almost all dead by now. The newer breed of rockers are cast in a skit more music theater than art. Palmer almost always keeps himself out of the picture, which is impossible as a modern viewer to not see some of what is captured here as a product of its time. Even with these flaws, **All You Need Is Love** is a defining work of dedication. Like any attempt on an epic scale, one expects there to be some bruises; Palmer's classic isn't immune to this rule, but manages to stay at a distance with judgment and manages to give the viewer an unadulterated slice of what life for musicians was like. Being "behind the stage" certainly isn't all glamour and it is comforting to find that every era apparently had its Britney Spears celeb on his or her way to the ultimate success. Along with the film's incredible ability to candidly portray a wide variety of musical styles, the history behind popular music comes to life in **All You Need Is Love**. Speaking from the perspective of someone that sat through his fair share of Music 101 courses in college,



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monumental feat to both educate and entertain viewers while addressing almost 2 music, and without losing a significant amount of depth and detail.

The format of **All You Need Is Love** is simple, with about four episodes contain DVD. The first episode is a digest of everything in the series, a one-hour rund upcoming episodes. Each episode covers a distinct form of music and has a theme. is often connected to the social or political context behind the music and the Especially considering that over 20 years has passed between the creation of this current DVD release, we expected more in the way of special features. Sure, the pr pudding, but a few behind-the-scenes or features would have been nice. It would b interesting to know how modern musicians featured at a young age in **All You Ne** now relate to the performances and comments they made at the time... The 16 epi African roots, Jazz, Blues, Vaudeville, Tin Pan Alley, The Musical, Swing, Rhyth Country Music, Folk, Rock, The Beatles, "Sour Rock," Glitter Rock, and New Dire titles chosen by Palmer for the later episodes betray a little disappointment he seem the direction that pop music took with bands like The Who, The Rolling Stones, C Kiss, and others. It's not overt, but the impression is that everything around this r theatrical. Looking back, it's impossible to imagine groups of the 90's and beyo without the influence of the 60's and 70's. Palmer was a visionary in his goal to d this musical history, but if he failed to fully appreciate the music of his own time much different than any of us that lack crystal balls.

A sad but necessary element woven through these episodes is historical contex stories are told largely through a filter of American and Western popular music, th racism, poverty, and drug use pervades the series. The roots of rock, jazz, and th tied so strongly to African-American heritage and that heritage includes atrocil doesn't gloss this over, but he doesn't play it so strongly that you feel he has an has a wonderful talent for not editorializing with the camera or in the editing room. from one of the first episodes is the inclusion of both Amiri Baraka and Tina Tur makes a fairly wild but probably accurate statement about the country needing revolution. Turner makes a wilder and grossly inaccurate statement about Africa people," and caps this off by saying that she found her visits to Africa very boring special quality of **All You Need Is Love** that allows the viewer from almost any viewpoint to take meaning away rather than be told what to think. **All You Need I** great experience for anyone with a curiosity about music and everyone with a passi form of popular music. The broad range of topics, personalities, time period, and in the film make it unique among anything of its type. Even with recent updates to v of this, as in Ken Burns' "Jazz" series, **All You Need Is Love** stands out as a piec attempted to explore and possibly help people understand modern Western mus awareness that understanding is tempered by opinion and perception made him a director and helped **All You Need Is Love** avoid becoming just another period pie on musical stars of the seventies.

-Fridtjof, GameVortex Communications AKA M

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