



All You Need Is Love

Release date: May 13

Details: 1976-81, MVD Entertainment Group

Rated: Not rated

The lowdown: In the mid-1970s John Lennon urged journalist-film director Tony Palmer to chronicle the story of popular music.

Palmer went about interviewing and filming dozens of musicians and others, past and present, who helped to create the music industry.

The result was the series, "All You Need Is Love," which was broadcast in many parts of the world between 1976 and 1981.

This five-disc set contains all 17 episodes of the series, and it is a treasure trove of musical history that encompasses ragtime, the blues, vaudeville, country and western, swing, folk, rock 'n' roll and jazz.

Among those interviewed are Lennon, Paul McCartney, Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Jimi Hendrix, Benny Goodman, Bing Crosby, Stephen Sondheim, Muddy Waters, Bill Monroe, Frank Zappa and Eric Clapton.

This is a set that any student of music history will find informative and entertaining.

- Bob Bloom