



The Doors
The Doors Are Open

The Rolling Stones
The Stones In The Park

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This DVD brings together two Granada TV documentaries made a little over a year apart which represent significant landmarks in the history of the mainstream British media's coverage of the burgeoning counter culture of the late 60s.

Unfortunately both films are presented here in edited form with 20 plus minutes mysteriously shorn from the original broadcast versions.

First The Doors Are Open which is built around The Doors historic appearances at London's Roundhouse in September 1968. Shot in black and white and edited in the style of a contemporary arts documentary the film intercuts live footage with verite material showing the band arriving at Heathrow, soundchecking and meeting the press along with snippets of interviews. Despite a running time of only 31 minutes this edited version of the film still manages to convey the dynamism of The Doors live performances as memorably captured on 'Spanish Caravan', 'Light My Fire' and 'The Unknown Soldier'. The Stones In The Park meanwhile documents the band's infamous free concert at Hyde Park in July 1969 which inadvertently turned into a requiem for Brian Jones after he been found dead in his swimming pool only two days before.

With The Stones seriously under-rehearsed and Mick Taylor making his live debut in front of an estimated 250,000 people this heavily edited version of the film misses out Mick Jagger's eulogy for Brian Jones and is primarily memorable for the ramshackle closing performance of 'Sympathy For The Devil' where The Stones are joined on stage by a troupe of African drummers.
Grahame Bent