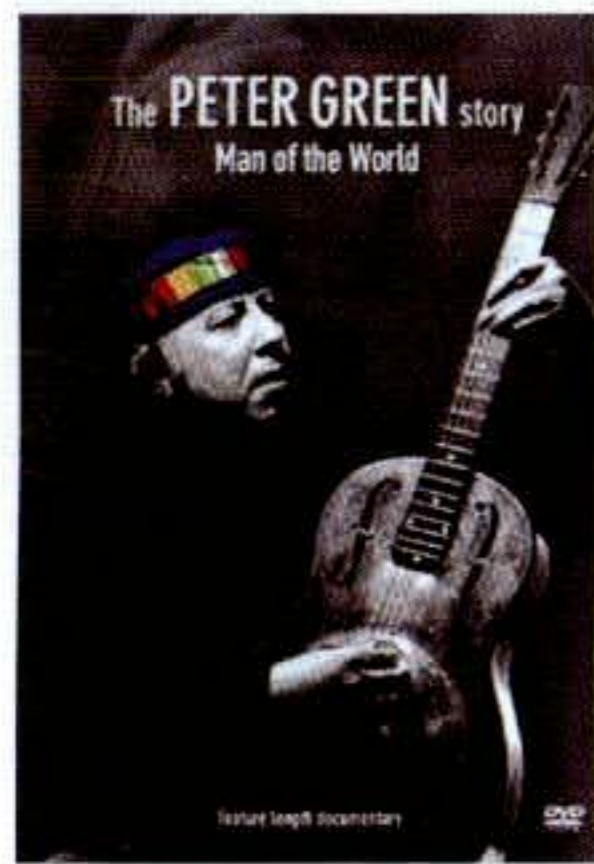


making millions for others at the height of his fame. Images of an emaciated man struggling on the comeback circuit in the 70s are often shocking, and his death at 42 in 1983 seems almost inevitable. A well-structured documentary celebrating a glorious talent, that's ultimately tinged with sadness. *Terry Staunton*



Man Of The World: The Peter Green Story

★★★★★
Scanbox SCBX 9291

Story of a blues legend cut down in his prime

Fleetwood Mac founder Peter Green's tale is a tragic one, but well worth the telling, and this new documentary does it in some style. Apart from tracking down Fleetwood and McVie, they've also found mercurial guitarist Jeremy Spencer, Green's original stage foil, who ran off to join The Children Of God. He adds fresh insights, while Fleetwood Mac manager Clifford Adams (aka Davis), producer Mike Vernon, celebrity fan Carlos Santana, svengali John Mayall and even Green's ex-girlfriend, the subject of Black Magic Woman, contribute on camera.

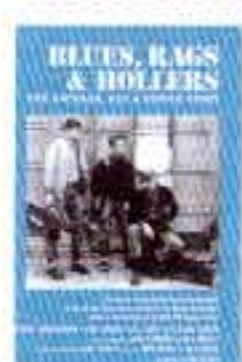
There's plenty of TV archive footage and evocative still photos to liven things up. In many ways, the only disappointment is Green himself, whose grasp on things is clearly still shaky after the bad trip that effectively ended his career in 1970. But he remains at the centre of things, and the memories of others add to his own to produce the most complete picture yet of an enigmatic figure whose impact on British blues-rock, albeit for a few short late-60s years, was incalculable.

Thankfully a veil is drawn over his comeback, which, to these ears, has been manufactured by others. Oh, and Mr Noel Gallagher drops by with a few pearls of wisdom. Regard that, if you can, as a bonus... *Michael Heatley*

Koerner, Ray & Glover Blues, Rags & Hollers

★★★★★
MVD Visual DM 0509 D

The colourful life and of times



of three folk-blues mavericks

Newly expanded and updated with full-length performances and nine bonus performances from

1991-99 by Tony Glover, *Blues, Rags & Hollers* charts the circuitous history of acoustic folk-blues trio John Koerner, Dave Ray, and Tony Glover who played a pivotal role in the formative years of the early 60s US folk revival.

It covers their early days at the University Of Minnesota, where they cut their teeth on the same coffee house circuit which gave the world Bob Dylan; recording their debut, *Blues, Rags & Hollers*, in the space of one afternoon in March 1963; signing to Elektra and the subsequent releases of *Lots More Rags & Hollers* (1964) and *The Return Of Koerner, Ray & Glover* (1965). The film continues the story by chronicling the solo careers (among other things, Koerner moonlighted as a sometime filmmaker and astronomer; Dave Ray engineered Bonnie Raitt's debut; Tony Glover wrote for *Rolling Stone* and authored best-selling tutor *Blues Harp*) and their on-off relationship over the decades, which culminated in their 1996 reunion album *One Foot In The Groove*. A slackly-paced delight, this is high-fibre pure backwoods Americana and an endearing tribute to these unassuming, yet highly influential, stalwarts. *Grahame Bent*



Madonna: The Performance Review

★
Chrome Dreams/Sexy Intellectual SIDVD 521

Cut'n'paste snippets of stuff you have

With its promise of focusing on Madonna's career as a performer and providing rare footage, *The Performance Review's* blurb raised our hopes. Perhaps we'd see some quality archive film, insider stories from Madonna's tours, contributions from Gaultier, the dancers, set designers and crew.

Alas, no. Instead, we're firmly back into unofficial biopic territory, opening with the tired "girl from Michigan" story and descending into a confused and tedious patchwork of clips from the widely available official videos and, yes, an array of 'experts' droning on ad nauseam about why gay men love Madonna, how shocking she is, yadda yadda. Mark Kamins, producer of her debut, is a worthy contributor, but the others are spurious at best.

The "rare footage" is a case of blink and you'll miss it. Two clips might reasonably be called rare, but they last seconds. The "rarely seen photos" seem to have been

pulled from books that are as widely available to anyone as Madonna's albums.

This may be of some interest to someone who has never heard of Madonna, though they'd be better off with the *Immaculate Collection* DVD. And the extras? Biographies of the various non-entities who bored us rigid in the documentary and – gasp! – an "Ultimate Madonna Quiz"! No stains on the upholstery, please... *James R Blandford*

Bob Marley & The Wailers

Exodus: 30th Anniversary Edition

★★★★★
Universal 1734453

Bob shows why he's a superstar

Veteran comedian Tommy Trinder had a catch phrase: "You lucky people". On the evidence of this DVD, audiences who attended The Wailers' four-night stand at the Rainbow in Finsbury Park in 1977 were lucky indeed, as they witnessed Bob Marley and co at the peak of their form.

Right from the opener, Trench Town Rock, everyone on the Rainbow stage shines in their own way: lead guitarist Junior Marvin in a flashy rock style, bassist Carlton Barrett reserved and immobile as he pumps out powerhouse bass lines, The I-Threes shimmying decorously. But for charisma, Marley is the man: you can't take your eyes off him as he dances, flails, sings and wails – and nor could the cameraman, who keeps him in shot throughout most of a Marvin lead guitar break.

Only three songs from the *Exodus* LP are here: *Exodus*, *The Heathen* and, lightening the mood, *Jammin'*. But every song – performed without introductions because they speak for themselves – is riveting, from the wistful *No Woman No Cry* to the battle cry *Get Up Stand Up*, in which Marley reaches an incredible, enthralling pitch of emotion.

An evocative tour round Marley's Nine Miles birthplace and

Kingston's Marley Museum adds value to what is already a compelling release. *Mike Atherton*

Elvis Presley

This Is Elvis: Two-Disc Special Edition

★★★★★
Warner Home Video, cat no tbc (2-DVD)

Girl Happy

★★
Warner Home Video 79752

Kissin' Cousins

★★★★
Warner Home Video 79753

The highs and lows of the King's cinematic career

Tying in with the 30th anniversary of Elvis' death, a mammoth 24 of his films are being released on DVD, many of them for the first time. Despite occasional hokey moments (the numerous re-enactments), *This Is Elvis* is actually a decent bio, with a wealth of performance footage. This release packages the original theatrical film, notorious for its shambolic performance of *Are You Lonesome Tonight?*, with the later home video version, which cut *Lonesome*, but runs 40 minutes longer.

Girl Happy and *Kissin' Cousins* are available both individually and as part of the 6-DVD set *Elvis: The Hollywood Collection*. The former has the King as a musician, sent to go Fort Lauderdale, Florida, to keep an eye on the daughter of a Mafia-esque nightclub boss. There's a noticeable lack of good songs; trivia buffs need only note that the infamous *Do The Clam* appears in this film, not the equally lightweight *Clambake*. *Kissin' Cousins* is so campy it almost verges on parody. Elvis plays an Air Force lieutenant trying to convince his blonde-haired, lookalike-cousin (also played by Elvis) that a missile base should be built on his beloved Big Smokey Mountain, while a gaggle of sex-crazed country gals called the Kittyhawks provide ample comic relief. *Gillian G Gaar*

Primal Scream Riot City Blues Tour

★★★★
Liberation Entertainment LIB 6057

The good, the middling, the ugly
It's a shame that Primal Scream's first official DVD comes on the back of their return to the Stonelike rock they bowed before in 1994. *Accelerator* threatens to run away with them as soon as they hit the Hammersmith Apollo stage. *Riot City Blues'* Dolls and Nitty Gritty follow, however, reining the show in under a mock-rock banner that it struggles to come out from under. *Jailbird* stands next to these re-re-hashes, proving they did this sort of thing better before.

Shoot Speed/Kill Light takes things somewhere near the stratosphere, but *Suicide Sally* drags it right back. After Gillespie does his Jim Morrison-rambling-adlibs-through-Gloria bit on *Burning Wheel*, he never seems to shake the character off. They may have always traded in pastiche, but they've also done it so much better elsewhere. When their current fascination leaves a sticky mark on the best bits, it's like an hour and 20 minutes of mild let-downs.

All the promo videos will cheer you up. The Scream through the ages is a fascinating beast. As if to hammer the point home, however, *Dolls* is just a 2006 rip off of *Rocks*. If they won't start taking speed and writing roof-raising records again, what will they do? *Jason Draper*

UB40

Live At Montreux 2002

★★★★
Eagle Vision EREDV 63

Swiss movement, reggae beat

Hardcore reggae fans love to hate them, but mainstream pop buyers love to love them: UB40 have chalked up multi-million record sales in their 25 years. Here, with the Campbell brothers still at the helm, they're captured live at the prestigious Swiss jazz festival.

From the opening number, the lads' reggaefication of The Temptations' *Way You Do The Things You Do*, it's obvious that

