

MUSIC

See Dick and John and Yoko

As the holiday season is drawing ever closer, the multi-media labels have once again shifted into overdrive, and we're going to do our best to keep up.



LINDSAY PLANER

As the disc spins

The Dick Cavett Show — “John & Yoko Collection” (Shout! Factory) This is the third part in Shout! Factory’s ongoing “Dick Cavett Show” series. As has been the case with the previous two installments, “The John & Yoko Collection” presents a trio of complete unedited programs. For the first of the three, John Lennon and Yoko Ono are the sole guests for the entire 90 minutes. In addition to chatting it up with Cavett, the pair also brought along cinematic shorts to accompany the songs “Imagine” and “Mrs. Lennon.” Plus, they show excerpts of two experimental films. The second telecast contains segments that had been taped, but not initially broadcast. One highlight is a candid Q&A session with the studio audience in which Lennon is asked about his own drug use, Yoko’s role in breaking up the Beatles and Yoko fields a very pointed inquiry regarding overpopulation. Other guests that evening include legendary satirist Stan Freberg. On their final appearance, also on the bill is actress Shirley MacLaine, who shares a few verbal spars with Lennon.

The Concert For Bangladesh (Apple Films)

If any project has ever been worthy of a complete sonic and visual overhaul, “The Concert For Bangladesh” is most definitely it. Disc One of the double DVD set contains a thoroughly remastered ver-



sion of the original theatrical release. The difference between this incarnation compared to the formerly available VHS tape and LaserDisc is stunning. The images are crisp, the colors are vibrant and modern digital restoration techniques now allow for a much deeper focus. This ultimately reveals subtle details that were previously undetectable. Equally impressive are the new stereo and Surround Sound audio derived from the multi-track tapes. With all due respect to Phil Spector, who produced the original soundtrack, these modern revisions are an infinite improvement. With the layers of Spector’s infamous “Wall of Sound” stripped away, the instruments and vocals are clear and their placement in the soundscape significantly redefined. Disc Two is full of special features, such as the 45-minute “Concert for Bangladesh Revisited” documentary.

DEVO — “Live 1980” (Music Video Distributors)

Here’s a DualDisc — with a video DVD on one side and an audio CD on the other. Spudheads have reason to rejoice over the unleashing of “Live 1980” as it presents the band in support of their “Freedom of Choice” album. The combo is in its prime and modern audiences can see and hear the full-length set, exactly the way it went down at the Phoenix Theater in Petaluma, Calif., Aug. 17, 1980. Actually, the DVD experience is probably better thanks to the 5.1 Surround Sound. Fan favorites “Whip It,” “Freedom of Choice,” “Mr. DNA” and the “Devo Corporate Anthem” are

joined by inspired cover versions of classic rock oldies “Secret Agent Man” and “(I Can’t Get No) Satisfaction.”

Journey — “Live in Houston 1981 — Escape Tour” (Columbia Music Video/Legacy)

When Journey set out on the road in support of the “Escape” album, the Bay Area quintet were hot off the heels of their previous multi-platinum double-LP “Captured.” As fate would have it, the “Escape” tour just so happened to coincide with the launch of MTV some three months earlier. So, the marriage of the hottest rock group in the country with the newborn pop music-oriented cable network must have been something of a no-brainer. Nearly a quarter-century later, that entire concert has been resurrected and restored for a unique two-disc package. Audio of the complete performance is on the CD. The DVD not only provides a perfect visual accompaniment of the original 70-plus minute MTV broadcast, but the 5.1 Surround Sound will put you front row center at the Summit in Houston. Journey draws heavily from the Escape LP with “Open Arms,” “Who’s Cryin’ Now,” “Don’t Stop Believin’” as well as “Lovin’ Touchin’, Squeezin’” and “Anyway You Want It.”

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‘American Idol’ Carrie Underwood is poised to become Nashville idol in 2005

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The most anticipated country album this fall might not be by Kenny Chesney or Big & Rich, but by a shy 22-year-old Oklahoma woman who says she’s terrified of public speaking and kind of a dud at parties. Carrie Underwood, who in May became the fourth winner of Fox’s “American Idol” TV series, released her debut album “Some Hearts” Tuesday.



UNDERWOOD

Group Nashville.

Along with fall releases by Chesney and Big & Rich, Underwood is considered the last chance to reverse a 10 percent slide in country

Underwood,” said Ben Kline, senior vice president of sales and marketing for Universal Music

million viewers will translate to sales.

“Look at all the exposure she’s had. You’d expect it to be a lot like Kelly Clarkson,” said Bill Kennedy, vice president of sales for Capitol Records Nashville.

Clarkson, the first “American Idol” winner, has had six top 10 singles and two albums in the top 5. Her first album, “Thankful,” debuted at No. 1 on Billboard’s album chart.

released a pop single in June, “Inside Your Heaven,” that was chosen for her — or for whomever won for that matter — by “American Idol” producers. The song reached No. 1 on Billboard’s chart, but didn’t fly on country radio.

Her new album is closer to what viewers heard from her on “Idol,” where she performed songs by McBride and others. She co-wrote the tune “I Ain’t

Pop/Roc

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