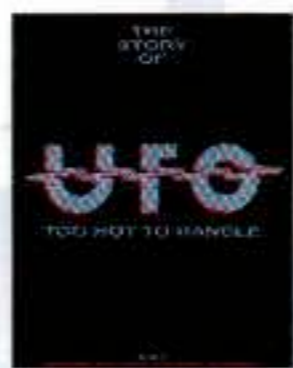


Fender and Marshall designs. In subsequent chapters, the topics range from basic maintenance procedures to advanced amplifier overhauls. Along the way you'll learn about tools, troubleshooting, replacing damaged components, making solid chassis grounds, and what's involved in converting silverface Fender amps to blackface specs. Other topics include identifying and fixing common wiring mistakes found on some very popular amplifiers, how to identify the impedance of an unknown transformer, determining output wattage, and lots of other cool, tech-oriented things. The camera work on this production is excellent, and every procedure is backed up with views that are so clear and close in that you

can actually read the values on the components. This fun and informative DVD is a no-brainer for any DIY type, but even if you're a technophobe who's merely interested in what makes an amp tick, you'll want to add it to your collection. **Kendrick Amplifiers.** —Art Thompson

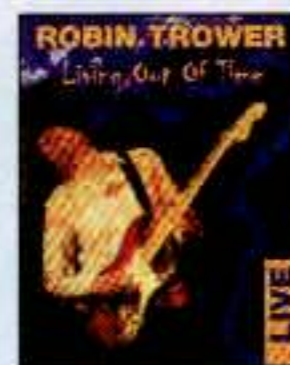


UFO

Too Hot to Handle (1969-1993)

UFO fans have always been sort of a secret society, due to the fact that the band never really attained the notoriety it seemed destined for in its late-'70s heyday. This DVD shows

some great footage of the hallowed Michael Schenker era, as well as a couple of cuts with Schenker successor Paul Chapman, the lesser known Laurence Archer, and original guitarist Mick Bolton. The bulk of the tunes, however, feature a very young Schenker plugging a black Flying V into his Marshall stacks. Schenker's playing is absolutely on fire, with beautifully composed solos in "This Kids" and "Out in the Street" (a great showcase for his signature bends and vibrato). Surprisingly, he doesn't use a half-cocked wah pedal to get his trademark penetrating tone until the "Lights Out" solo, which is a real barnburner. Schenker's guitar work is all the more impressive when you consider that this footage is from the mid-1970s, and he's barely 20 years old. It's completely obvious why he influenced as many hard rock guitarists as he did. **Damn. Cherry Red.** —Matt Blackett



ROBIN TROWER
Living Out of Time

Rockers—especially hard rockers—never attained the timeless grace of blues, jazz, classical, and country artists who can grow old without seeming out of it. Much of this sad truth is due to the ever-youthful demands of pop culture, and has nothing to do with the artists themselves, who can often knock 20 or 30 years off their chronological age by simply digging into a guitar. Robin Trower is a perfect case study. He's a true geezer with a face that has more lines and age spots than Willie Nelson's. But, he can still *rage* on guitar, and his mysterious and liquid tone is just as sexy today as it was in the '70s. And the crowd at the 2005 Rockpalast Festival in Germany—where this DVD was filmed—could care less about the ravages of time. They wish Trower a happy birthday (with lighted sparklers), and flip out at every soaring bend and funky riff. The hits are covered ("Too Rolling Stoned," "Daydream," "Day of the Eagle," "Bridge of Sighs," etc.), and the newer material rocks hard. The 5.1 audio is *big*. It seems the producers figured most people don't sit in a "sweet spot" to experience all the subtle dimensional goodies of surround sound, so they simply threw a relatively full mix to the rear speakers. The result is a thrill-inducing panorama that pummels the room with sound. Yeah! **Ruf.** —Michael Molenda

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TIM BROOKES
Guitar: An American Life

Just prior to his 50th birthday, careless baggage handlers destroyed the guitar author Tim Brookes had played for the previous