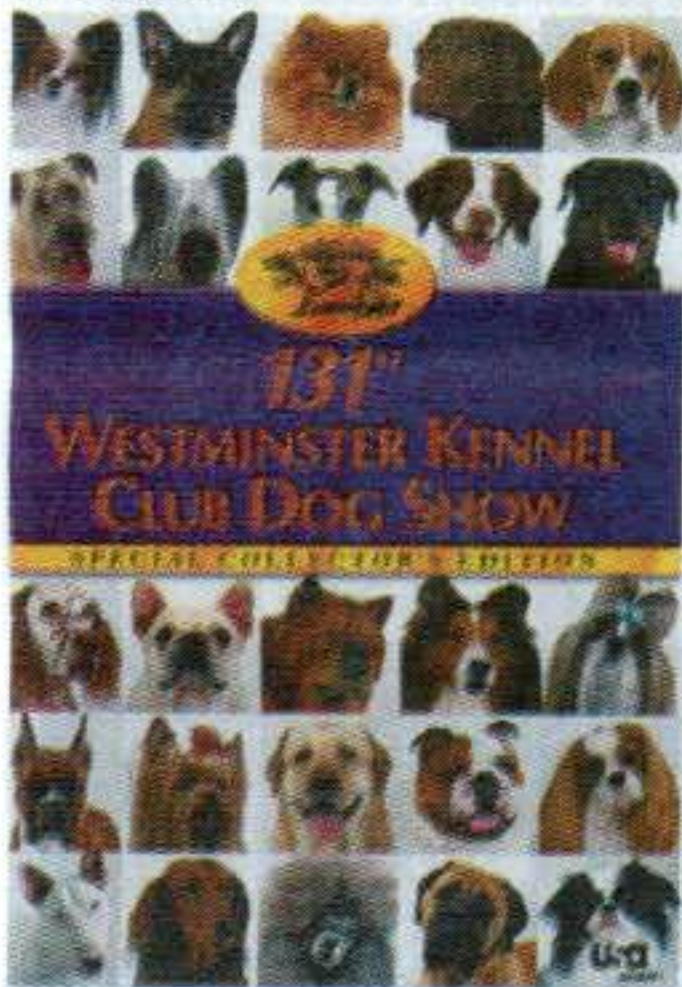


DVD PREVIEWS

131st Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show

USA Network
Street 05.15



Dog shows are an awesome commentary on modern society. They showcase the extreme end of spending too much time and money on animals. Still, dog shows are cool as hell to watch, and the Westminster Kennel Club show is maybe the top event of its kind in the world. This DVD presents both full nights of group judging, as it originally aired on the USA Network. Highlights include watching tiny, extremely-coiffed dogs led around the ring by 400 pound handlers in ill-fitting clothes. Monster, rough-looking dogs are handled by borderline anorexic ladies. Judges lift, prod and make the various dogs run around in circles. The crowd seems to cheer at nothing and the two hosts struggle to fill four hours of air time without sounding like complete douches. They rarely succeed. This edition includes a feature on breed judging, interviews with winners (err, their handlers) and a piece on dog grooming. It is hard to watch in its entirety, but those that brave both discs will be treated to nuggets of wisdom available nowhere else. I now know that the secret to fluffy poodle hair is cheap human shampoo (Suave). And I also know that the proper way for a dog show announcer to end a moment of silence for a departed breeder is by raising the

lights and yelling, "bring out those terriers!" —James Bennett

Einstuerzende Neubauten

Palast Der Republik
MYDvisual
Street: 03.13

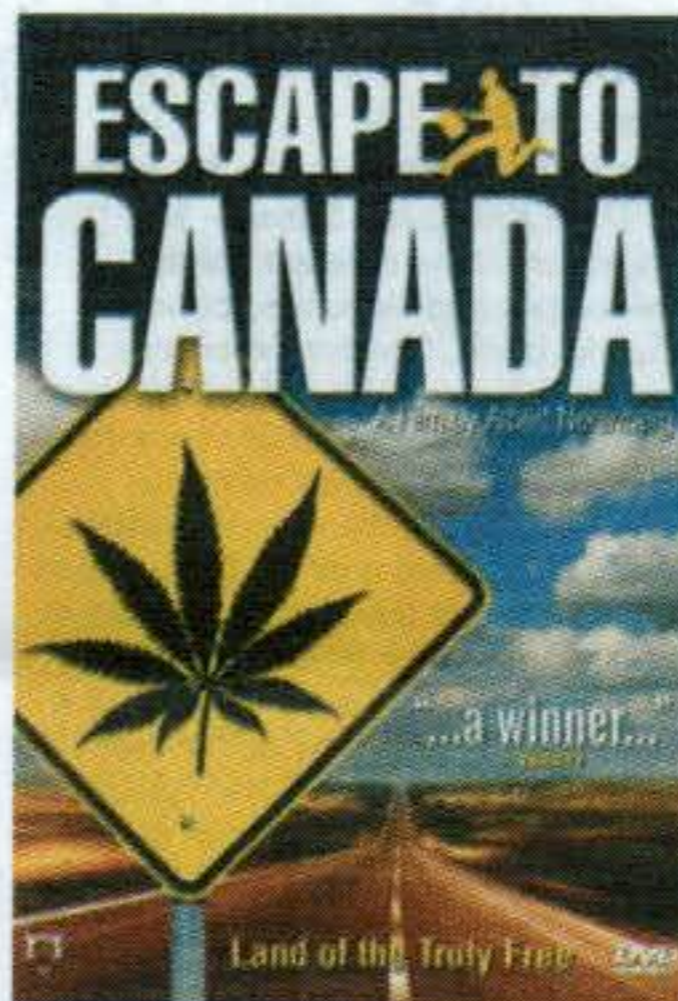


Nowadays, in order to be an industrial act all you have to do is have a drilling beat and a few steam whistles. In this DVD, Neubauten revitalizes the term "industry" in industrial music. Not so much a band as a performance group, Neubauten continues to be in fine form with its cacophonous, chaotic and altogether hazard area brought forth in this 2004 concert DVD. The camera work admirably captures all facets of the performance going from one end of the stage to the next and combining the disparate elements (each player in their own right being an artist and not just an auxiliary band member) that make such a powerhouse performance. The songs from the DVD cover their most recent stuff and pleasure will be taken from the fabrication of their own instruments to produce a wide spectrum of interesting noise and sounds. Highly recommended for fans of noise, machinery and the roots of industrial music. DVD includes commentary, unreleased songs, encore performance and more. —Erik Lopez

Escape to Canada

Albert Nerenberg
The Disinformation Company Ltd.
Street: 05.22

I don't think I have ever cringed so



often during a documentary in my entire life. No, not because there was shocking material presented in a thought-provoking way, but instead because of the absolutely absurd ties between marijuana and gay marriage, hilariously terrible and over-the-top transitions, and a narrator that reminds me of none other than a half-baked William Shatner. No less than two or three times every ten minutes, something that I would consider common knowledge would be presented along with ridiculously over-dramatic music, slow motion, and lightning striking a random mountain in the background to illustrate something that wasn't even remotely shocking. That, along with the random transitions from gay marriage to marijuana that just didn't make any sense at all, made this movie seem like far more of a joke than anything else. —Ross Solomon

The Films of Kenneth Anger: Volume One

Kenneth Anger
Fantoma
Street: 01.23

Finally the films of Kenneth Anger are being restored, and restored beautifully at that. Forever (literally), Anger's films have been out-of-print due to copyright issues concerning pop songs in his films. Anger's influence stems from his idiosyncratic vision and inspiration to combine stylistic, bold content and color with pop culture and modern music ... all the way back in the 40s. Anger single-handedly



spawned the MTV generation and the music video. These masterfully restored films capture the pure dream-like artifice of Anger's films in such classics such as *Inauguration of the Pleasure Dome*, *Rabbit's Moon* and *Fireworks*. A superbly gay experience. —Erik Lopez

La Belle Captive

Alain Robbe-Grillet
Koch Lorber
Street: 03.13



Watch out movie fans—anay distribution company with the word "Lorber" in it, is bound not to be technically up to par, and this DVD is no exception. *La Belle Captive* is one of Alain Robbe-Grillet's later works that seems to recapitulate themes from some of his more famous movies, such as *Last Year at Marienbad*. Themes like reality, history and linearity are thrown into