



(six newspapers across Midcoast Maine)

Yes -- The New Director's Cut (MSD Visual, 2 DVDs, 256 min.).

Yes fans have a lot to rejoice about. The core band -- guitarist Steve Howe, drummer Alan White and bassist Chris Squire -- will be joined by keyboardist Oliver Wakeman (son of Yes keyboardist Rick Wakeman) and vocalist Benoit David, a Montreal native who has sung in several Yes tribute groups, on the upcoming tour that starts Nov. 4. David was found by the band via the Internet, after Yes vocalist Jon Anderson suffered an acute asthma attack in June and was diagnosed with acute respiratory failure.

This new DVD is an expansion of a previous release and features two full-length concerts featuring the classic lineup, recorded at the N.I.A. Birmingham and Glastonbury Festival during the band's 35th anniversary tour. The previous releases of the show have edited the songs. Here you get it all and, as usual, the band is amazing on "Siberian Khatru," "In the Presence of," "And You and I," "Long Distance Runaround," "I've Seen All Good People" and "Roundabout." It is British progressive music at its best. This is the lineup of Anderson, Howe, Squire, White and Rick Wakeman. **Grade: A**

By Tom Von Malder