



September 13, 2007

Various Artists

All My Loving (DVD) **Music Video Distributors**

Grade: B-

As late as 1968 — a full decade after Elvis and “Roll Over Beethoven” — the old cultural guard still clung to the idea of surviving the nuclear blast of rock’n’roll. It wasn’t until the late ’60s, apparently, that high-art buffs finally accepted their annihilation, with the Beatles proving to be willing executioners. To celebrate the end of that particular world, director Tony Palmer made *All My Loving*, a one-hour made-for-BBC documentary that presents the rise of [pop music](#) as an abstract horror movie. Kaleidoscopic images of the psychedelic nation at full flower mingle with visions of brutality — the Holocaust, self-immolating monks, the famous footage of a Vietnamese officer executing a member of the Viet Cong — and some truly apocalyptic performances from Jimi Hendrix, Pink Floyd and “the Cream.” Trippy, yet still a bit boring. ★

- Matthew Singer