

# New On DVD & Blu-Ray

**Parting Ways The Beatles** Four decades after the band broke up, The Beatles are still on top of every conceivable list of the greatest recording artists of all time. No other pop act has surpassed the Fab Four in terms of innovation, or social impact. Because of this, whatever they chose to do as solo performers would forever be judged against what was achieved as a part of the most popular group in music history. Founder of The Beatles, John Lennon and his wife Yoko Ono were often - and still are occasionally - blamed for the break-up of the band. It was no secret that there was tension between Lennon and his band mates about allowing Ono in the studio - previously thought of as a sacred place - but when he formed the Plastic Ono band in 1969 and had a hit with "Give Peace a Chance", it was obvious that John Lennon had aspirations of a solo career, and also, ultimately, a family life with his new bride. It was not just Lennon who was embracing change, however. Paul McCartney also looked forward to life after the Beatles, citing a desire for more time with his family and the opportunity to pursue his own solo career. This went alongside a decade as front-man of Wings, a group he'd formed with his wife, Linda and some session musicians. George Harrison also went out on his own, producing "All Things Must Pass" an album which suggested that Harrison's song writing talent had perhaps been stifled during his time in The Beatles. His love of Indian mysticism and music led to his collaboration with sitar player Ravi Shankar. He also set up his own film production company "Hand Made Films" which produced the Monty Python movies, and in 1987, teamed up with Roy Orbison, Tom Petty and Bob Dylan, as the Travelling Wilburys. Often seen as the clown of the group, drummer Ringo Starr showed that he wasn't just an "also ran", as he revealed acting talent, produced two solo albums and later narrated the popular children's TV series, Thomas the Tank Engine. During the seventies, the band was facing personal hurdles, including drug busts (George and Patti, Linda and Paul), marriage break-ups (George and Patti) and issues with attaining citizenship to the US (Lennon). But it was the untimely murder of their band's founder, John Lennon, in December 1980 that galvanized the remaining Beatles and healed any rifts left over from their failed music business, Apple. In the late nineties, the remaining Beatles collaborated on a documentary series called The Beatles Anthology, which featured two previously unheard songs written by John Lennon "Real Love" and "Free as a Bird". In 2001, George Harrison succumbed to throat and lung cancer, and a tribute concert was held in his honour, inspiring Tom Hanks to conclude the event with "All Things Must Pass, sure, but George Harrison will live forever." Despite their many personal trials and tribulations (including Sir Paul's recent messy divorce from Heather Mills), The Beatles, both together and individually, have managed to retain their good reputations and legend status as the best pop band in the world. *Infinity*

**Shine An Unauthorized Story on Beyonce** she's won ten Grammys, sold 120 million records, starred in seven films and headlined three solo world tours, but Beyonce, former member of girl group Destiny's Child and biggest selling female recording artist of the decade she still gets excited about new challenges. Born Beyonce Gisele Knowles in Houston Texas in 1981, she took dance and singing classes to overcome shyness, but it soon became obvious to everyone that she could belt out a tune. By the age of seven she was winning talent competitions, and at fifteen formed Destiny's Child with best friend Kelly Rowland. Knowles's father had so much faith in his daughter's talent that he left his job in sales to manage the group full time, and he was soon rewarded when Columbia signed Destiny's Child to a recording contract. After some line-up changes in the year 2000, the group was finally settled as a trio featuring Knowles, Rowland and Michelle Williams. The group's third album was the first to feature Williams. Titled Survivor it spawned the hits "Independent Woman," "Bootylicious" and "Survivor." It earned them their third Grammy for Best R&B Performance by a Duo or Group. After a slew of awards, the trio took some time out to pursue solo efforts. Three years later, they reformed to produce their final album Destiny Fulfilled on which they all had writing and producing credits. The album went on to make them the biggest selling girl group of all time. In June 2005 though, the girls called it quits, deciding to end their fourteen years together on a high note so they could go on to pursue individual goals. This Beyonce in particular has done with irrepressible style, dipping her toes into cinema with Dream Girls and Austin Powers: Goldmember; as well as producing the follow up to her debut solo album Dangerously in Love, B-Day. B-Day included the hit "Irreplaceable", collaboration with boyfriend Jay-Z which stayed on top of the Billboard charts for ten straight weeks, giving Beyonce the most successful single of her career. The star decided to make a video for each song on the album, keeping Beyonce busy shooting eight music clips in two weeks! Her third solo album "I Am... Sasha Fierce" shows the two halves of her personality, the stage persona she calls "Sasha Fierce" in contrast with her quieter, most introspective side. The album includes the hits "Halo," "If I Were a Boy" and "Single Ladies." So hard-working, so modest and likable, Beyonce is a natural beauty who is passionate about what she does, and that passion rubs off on her fans and even casual observers. With her solo career hitting all the right notes, and her film career taking off, who knows what Beyonce Knowles will be up to next? *Infinity*

**Railroads Tracks Across America** This comprehensive documentary collection is composed of 36 fascinating features chronicling the development of the railroad industry from the first transcontinental line, freight and Pullman cars, to modern diesel engines. See the people and machines that built the Tracks Across America which is sure to please train enthusiasts old and new. Including in-depth features chronicling: Steam Trains, Passenger Trains, Freight Trains, The Nickel Plate Railroad And much much more! Ride along with this nostalgic collection that takes you to a romantic place where steam rises from the dense population centers in the East to the snow-peaked mountains of the West. Go back to the days when trains brought loved ones home to small towns where the American railroad network is still a vital part of their transportation system today. Indeed, it moves more goods than the rest of the world's rails combined. Discover this and other fun facts about an industry that shaped American culture and its economy. *Mill Creek*

**IP Man** Ip Man is an award winning adaptation based on the life of Ip Man (Donnie Yen), the grandmaster of Wing Chun and later teacher and mentor to widely influential and legendary martial artist, Bruce Lee. Ip Man is set in the 1930s in Foshan, a hub of southern Chinese martial arts just as the Second Sino-Japan war breaks out. During the war, China is nearly ripped to pieces by racial hatred, nationalistic strife and warfare. Ip Man rose like a phoenix above these ashes as he defied an empire bringing hope to China. Winner of Best Picture and Actor, Ip Man ranks as one of the best martial arts movies of all time! *Well Go*

# New On DVD & Blu-Ray

**Super Friends Season One, Volume 2** The series featured the adventures of DC Comics book heroes Superman, Batman, Robin, Wonder Woman, and Aquaman. These five superheroes along with superheroes in training Wendy, Marvin, and Wonder Dog focused their abilities on putting away criminals, saving lives, and stopping terrible disasters. Each episode of the SuperFriends was geared to present, not only action, but also some lesson of educational value. A number of other famous DC comic book heroes appeared: Plastic Man, The Flash, and Green Arrow Eight 1-hour timeless adventures in a Deluxe 2-Disc Collector's Edition showcase the universe's greatest heroes paving the way for a brighter future. Behold the Super Friends: Superman, Batman and Robin, Wonder Woman and Aquaman debut as an animated team in Vol. 2 of the first season of the Hanna-Barbera series. Mobilized by Troubadour, the superheroes avert disasters both cosmic and mundane. Yet they prevail over Dr. Rebus, Prof. Baffles and other zealous brainiacs as much through reason as with force. Trainees Wendy, Marvin and Wonder Dog aid in the effort, as do Flash and Green Arrow. *Warner*

**Date Night** Steve Carell and Tina Fey are "a match made in comedy heaven" in this uproarious adventure about an ordinary couple in the right place...on the wrong night. Phil and Claire Foster are a sensible, suburban husband and wife slogging through their daily lives and marriage. But a case of mistaken identity sets off an outrageous chain of events involving small-time thieves, big-city mobsters, corrupt cops and a crazed cabbie, as the Fosters' "date night" turns into a wild ride they'll never forget!

**Bleach Volume 30** This hit Japanese anime series based on the manga by Tite Kubo follows the adventures of spirit-seeing teen superhero Ichigo Kurosaki as he and his supernatural sidekick, Rukia Kuchiki, round up lost souls. Ichigo first inherits his powers from a wounded Rukia, who is in fact a shinigami, or soul reaper. Forced to live temporarily in an artificial human body, Rukia must combine her otherworldly abilities with Ichigo's. Vol. 30 includes episodes 122-126. *Viz/Warner*

**Bull Durham** North Carolina's Durham Bulls have just acquired a hot new pitcher, "Nuke" LaLoosh, who has a Major League arm but Little League aim. The management has sent for veteran Minor League catcher Crash Davis to train the rookie and get him ready for the upcoming season. The team's biggest fan, an English professor at the local college, has a tradition of choosing one Bulls player each year to be her lover and baseball/poetry prodigy, and this year she must choose between two players that have caught her eye, the pitcher and the catcher. The two ball players bait each other on and off the field, compete for the woman's affections, and eventually, send the Bulls on a winning streak. *MGM*

**The Square** The Square Temptation turns a man's life upside down in this noir-influenced thriller from Australia. Ray Yale (David Roberts) is a construction worker who is married to Martha (Lucy Bell) and is helping to build an upscale resort hotel just outside Sydney. Ray isn't entirely happy in his marriage, and his roving eye has become focused on Carla (Claire van der Boom), a hairdresser who lives next door. Carla is married to a low-level mobster, Greg (Anthony Hayes), but she craves excitement and is soon having a torrid affair with Ray. Carla knows that Greg has a large bundle of cash hidden in their home, and she hatches a scheme she shares with Ray -- they steal the money, set fire to the house, and run off together, with Greg imagining the cash was lost in the blaze. While Ray isn't interested in a life of crime, he can't say no to Carla, but when he develops cold feet at the last minute, his attempts to reach Billy (Joel Edgerton), who was hired to torch the house, are unsuccessful, and things take a turn for the worse when he learns that Greg's aged mother was in the house when it burned to the ground. Ray quickly realizes he's been implicated in a murder, and Billy doesn't hesitate to use this knowledge to his advantage. *Sony*

**Cemetery Junction** Cemetery Junction tells the funny, touching and universal story of being trapped in a small town and dreaming of escape. In 1970s England, three blue-collar friends spend their days joking, drinking, fighting and chasing girls. Freddie (Christian Cooke) wants to leave their working-class world but cool, charismatic Bruce (Tom Hughes) and loveable loser Snork are happy with life the way it is. When Freddie gets a new job as a door-to-door salesman and bumps into his old school sweetheart Julie (Felicity Jones), the gang are forced to make choices that will change their lives forever. *Sony*

**Temple Grandin** Based on the writings by its title subject, HBO Films' Temple Grandin is an engaging portrait of an autistic young woman who became, through timely mentoring and sheer force of will, one of America's most remarkable success stories. With a tour de force performance by Claire Danes in the title role, the film chronicles Grandin's early beginnings as a child diagnosed with autism; her turbulent growth and development during her school years; and the enduring support she received from her mother, her aunt and her science teacher. Against all odds, Temple eventually transitioned into a highly-functional, esteemed inventor in the cattle industry, which she revolutionized with her scientific research and designs. This visually inventive film offers stunning insights into Grandin's world, taking the audience inside her mind with a series of snapshot images that trace her self-perceptions and journey from childhood through young adulthood to the beginning of her career, and beyond. *HBO*

**Flight of the Conchords: Complete Collection Season One** New Zealand folk parody duo Bret McKenzie and Jemaine Clement play fictionalized versions of themselves in this Emmy-nominated HBO comedy series that follows two somewhat dim-witted pals trying to make it big in New York City. They must deal with their inept manager, Murray, who films their first music video on his cell phone; their only fan, Mel (Kristen Schaal), whose adoring attention verges on stalking; and their own childish natures. Season Two Jemaine Clement and Bret McKenzie return for the sophomore season of HBO's acclaimed folk musical, which continues to follow the fictional travails of the Kiwi duo as they struggle to navigate the music industry and the singles scene in Manhattan. Captured with a handheld lens, the pair's musical outbursts and lyrical commentary about the absurd characters and situations they're forced to deal with make for some highly original television. *HBO*

**Metamorphosis** With his friends J.J. (Charlie Hollway) and Kim (Jennifer Higham) in tow, young American novelist Keith (Corey Sevier) travels to Hungary to conduct research on a legendary 17th-century countess whose thirst for murder and taste for blood inspired many a vampire tale. There, Keith begins a torrid love affair with Elizabeth (Irena A. Hoffman), a mysterious stranger who leads the trio on a harrowing journey fraught with supernatural danger *MTI*