



AV Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2011/2012

New DVDs

NOVEMBER

The Art of Getting By. PG-13
 Beginners. R
 Cars 2. G
 The Change-Up. R
 Conan the Barbarian. R
 Friends with Benefits. R
 Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows, Part 2. PG-13
 Kung Fu Panda 2. PG
 Larry Crowne. PG-13
 One Day. PG-13
 Our Idiot Brother. R
 Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides. PG-13
 Sarah's Key. PG-13
 Snow Flower and the Secret Fan. PG-13
 Spy Kids 4. PG
 Super 8. PG-13
 30 Minutes or Less. R
 Water for Elephants. PG-13

DECEMBER

Apollo 18. PG-13
 Colombiana. Unrated
 Cowboys & Aliens. PG-13
 Crazy, Stupid, Love. PG-13
 The Debt. R
 Fright Night. R
 Glee The Concert Movie. Not Rated
 The Help. PG-13
 Margin Call. R
 Midnight in Paris. PG-13
 Rise of the Planet of the Apes. PG-13
 Straw Dogs. R
 The Tempest. PG-13
 Warrior. PG-13

JANUARY

Abduction. PG-13
 Bucky Larson: Born to be a Star. R
 Dream House. PG-13
 Drive. R
 Final Destination 5. R
 The Guard. R
 The Hangover Part II. R
 I Don't Know How She Does It. PG-13
 Killer Elite. R
 Moneyball. PG-13
 Shark Night. PG-13
 There Be Dragons. PG-13
 The Thing. R

New CDs

CLASSICAL

Complete Symphonies - Johann Christian Bach; Netherlands Chamber Orchestra
 Dream with Me in Concert - Jackie Evancho, soprano
 Prélude à l'Après-Midi d'un Faune - Claude Debussy
 Shakespeare Inspired - Michelle Breedt, mezzo-soprano
 Symphony No. 9 - Ludwig van Beethoven; Edith Wiens, soprano
 Il Volo - Il Volo

POPULAR

American Goldwing - Blitzen Trapper
 Beauty Queen Sister - Indigo Girls
 The Best of 25 Years - Sting
 Chickenfoot III - Chickenfoot
 Clancy's Tavern - Toby Keith
 Clear as Day - Scotty McCreery
 Come Back to Us - Release the Sunbird
 Europe '72 - Grateful Dead
 Go Tell Fire to the Mountain - WU LYF
 The Great Escape Artist - Jane's Addiction
 Hands All Over - Maroon 5
 Keeper - John Doe
 Metals - Feist
 Minnesota - Mason Jennings
 Neighborhoods - Blink-182
 Panic of Girls - Blondie
 Soundtrack - Dwight Twilley
 Stronger - Kelly Clarkson
 Sweetheart of the Sun - Bangles
 Watch the Throne - Kanye West
 Whole Love - Wilco
 Wild Flag - Wild Flag

DVD Spotlight:

MASTERPIECE



Framed. 2011. When London's National Gallery is flooded, the treasured collection is relocated to an abandoned mine in Wales, where it had previously been stored during WW II. Quentin Lester, the stuffy curator, gets more than he bargained for, though. The masterpieces unexpectedly alter the lives of the villagers, and much to his surprise, Quentin falls for the local schoolteacher. Eve Myles and Trevor Eve star in this charming family drama based on the book by Frank Cottrell Boyce.

Page Eight. 2011. Written and directed by David Hare, the stellar cast includes Bill Nighy, Rachel Weisz, Michael Gambon, Ralph Fiennes, and Judy Davis. Veteran MI5 agent Johnny Worricker is put in a tricky position when his long-time friend and boss suddenly dies, leaving behind a top secret document that reveals a misdeed at the highest level. The truth could topple the government, and Johnny is determined to put things right. In the meantime, a chance meeting with his beautiful neighbor, political activist Nancy Pierpan, seems too good to be true.



Case Histories. 2011. Adapted from the popular detective novels by Kate Atkinson. Jason Isaacs stars as Jackson Brodie, a former policeman turned private eye. He finds himself investigating cold cases, kidnappings, and killings - often at the same time and all the while contending with a troubled personal life. Set in Edinburgh, the beautiful scenery provides the perfect setting for these splendid jigsaw puzzles.

Zen. 2011. Based on books by Michael Dibdin, this series was filmed in Italy, but the dialogue is in English. Rufus Sewell plays Aurelio Zen, an Italian police detective with a reputation for being an honest cop. This makes his job doubly difficult, as sometimes his superiors are on the side of the lawbreakers. Indeed, Zen has to figure out a way to bring justice to modern day Rome, outwitting prosecutors, politicians, mobsters, kidnappers, and killers along the way.





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CAN'T-MISS MUSIC BY TOBY GREENWALT

Earlier this summer we celebrated the current renaissance of beards in contemporary music. It may occur to some that such a list is inherently dude-centric. It's time to correct that bias, as there's no shortage of great albums being created by women. Let's take a look at a few, shall we?

You might recognize **Eleanor Friedberger** as one-half of the sibling duo The Fiery Furnaces. They've long been known for their shambling, everything-but-the-kitchen-sink brand of indie rock. Striking out on her own, Friedberger's first solo debut *Last Summer* successfully smooths many of the more experimental edges that have made the Furnaces a divisive act. The detached coolness of Friedberger's voice adds an air of melancholy to the sing-songy rhyme scheme, placing the album on a tightrope between indie ramshackle and Brill Building polish. Working without a net, Friedberger makes the dance look easy.

The sudden dissolution of Sleater-Kinney in 2006 came as a shock to many, as they broke up just as their album *The Woods* revealed a more powerful edge to their brand of surf-tinged angular punk rock. **Wild Flag** rises from the ashes of that sound, and their eponymous debut simultaneously continues this progression while rekindling a commitment to rock-n-roll fun. Taking two-thirds of Sleater-Kinney and mashing it up with members Helium and The Minders has created a human-animal musical hybrid of nimble keyboards and muscular guitars, like an unstoppable shark with gorilla arms. Play it, then play it again.

We end our survey of 2011's great female-fronted albums with a voice powerful enough to melt the beards off any previous resident of this column. Lydia Loveless is an *Indestructible Machine*. It says so right on the title of her record. But rather than just take her at her word, it's far better to let this unpredictable dervish of an album speak for itself. Loveless takes the traditional country sound and matches it with the frenetic mania of a scorned lover. If you think Neko Case has been dialing it back with her last couple of albums, you're going to love this CD.

Looking for more great albums? Of course you are. Check out the Studio blog at blogs.skokieliibrary.info/studio.



World Film Fest



Monday, December 12 at 7:00pm

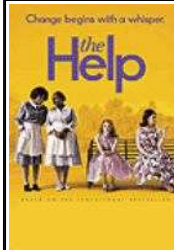
The Illusionist (United Kingdom and France)

Released 2010 – 80 minutes – PG. In English (with some foreign phrases with English subtitles) This is an animated comedy-drama.

Monday, January 9 at 7:00pm

The Human Resources Manager (Israel)

Released 2010 – 105 minutes – Not rated.
In Hebrew, Romanian and English, with English subtitles



DVD Spotlight: View-A-Likes for *THE HELP*

Yes, there is a LONG wait list on both the DVD and Blu-ray copies of *The Help*. So, instead, try one of these "similar" titles.

The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman. Not rated. 1974. DVD A DRAMA – A story about the Black experience in the South, told from the POV of a black woman.

The Color Purple. PG-13. 1985. DVD C DRAMA - The heart-wrenching story of a young black girl in the early 20th century who's forced into a brutal marriage and separated from her sister.



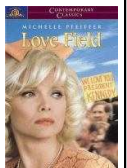
Corrina, Corrina. PG. 1999. DVD Drama – A funny, heart-warming story of a widowed man struggling to raise his daughter, and the woman who brings magic and laughter back into their lives.

Imitation of Life. Not rated. 1934 and 1959. DVD I DRAMA - The story of a widow and her maid who find that success isn't everything, especially when the black maid's daughter tries to pass for white.



The Long Walk Home. PG. 1990. DVD L DRAMA - When a black housekeeper honors the Montgomery bus boycott by walking nine miles, she is offered a ride by her employer's wife.

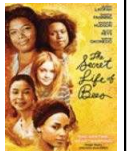
Love Field. PG-13. 1992. DVD L DRAMA - A Dallas housewife sets out by bus to attend the funeral of the president. Along the way she befriends an African American man and his daughter.



Mississippi Burning. R. 1988. DVD M DRAMA - Set in Mississippi in 1964, this is a fictionalized version of the case of the murder of three young civil rights workers.

The Rosa Parks Story. Not rated. 2002. 791.4572 ROS TV – Dramatic bio of Rosa McCauley Parks, who in 1955 created the spark that began the modern Civil Rights Movement.

The Secret Life of Bees. PG-13. 2008. DVD S DRAMA and BLU-RAY DVD S DRAMA – During the summer of 1964, a young girl is given a home by three black beekeeping sisters.



A Time to Kill. R. 1997. DVD T DRAMA - A murder trial brings a small Mississippi town's racial tension to the flashpoint, where an unseasoned but idealistic lawyer mounts a stirring battle for justice.



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