

Re:Vu

News and reviews

MUSIC MATTERS

Soundstage — The Essential Music Collection

THE SOUNDSTAGE series is renowned for delivering top quality music and exclusive live performances by world-class artists.

Long before music television filled the airwaves, the PBS series Soundstage sparked the nation.

In an impressive run from 1974-1985, this innovative and prestigious program achieved widespread critical acclaim and featured the artists that defined the era, including such luminaries as Bob Dylan, Aretha Franklin, Bonnie Raitt, Al Green, the Doobie Brothers, Harry Chapin, Dionne Warwick, Kenny Loggins, and the Temptations.

Soundstage was reborn in 2003 thanks to Joe Thomas, director and founder of HD Ready.

HD Ready specialises in combining high-definition television and cutting-edge



surround sound.

Thomas' vision was to combine the one-hour musical performances of the original show with state-of-the-art high definition video equipment and innovative Dolby 5.1 audio.

The result is top quality sound in an intimate setting.

Jewel: The Essential Live Songbook — This double disc package captures a stunning live performance of this American solo artist, showcasing

many of her popular hits. **America: Live in Chicago** — In a unique and intimate performance from the legendary band America who defined the early 70s' folk sound with their evocative harmonies and acoustic-styled musicianship.

The DVD features a 20-song set including the icons Horse with No Name, Ventura Highway and Tin Man.

Chris Isaak: Christmas — Recorded live in Chicago, Chris Isaak and his long-time band perform Christmas favourites and seasonal standards, ranging from Santa Claus is coming to town to White Christmas.

During the set, he is joined on stage for special duets with Stevie Nicks, Michael Buble and Brian McKnight.

The DVD also includes some of Isaak's own Christmas compositions.

Heart: Live — captures sisters Ann and Nancy Wilson's complete uncut performance on the acclaimed PBS concert series Soundstage.

Smash hits like Baracuda and Even It Up share equal billing with the '80s ballad-tinged These Dreams along with songs off their latest album, Jupiter's Darling.

From the band often hailed as "the female Led Zeppelin", this incredible 23-song set also features rare covers of The Battle Of Evermore, Black Dog and

Misty Mountain Hop as well as Elton John's Love Song.

REO Speedwagon: Live In The Heartland — captures the band's current line-up of Kevin Cronin (lead vocals, guitar), Bruce Hall (bass), Neal Doughty (keyboards), Dave Amato (lead guitar) and Bryan Hitt (drums) performing in front of adoring fans on their home turf in 2007.

The spectacular 16-song set, recorded in awe inspiring high-definition and mixed in 5.1 Surround Sound for the hit PBS concert series Soundstage, spans REO's celebrated 35-year career.

The band have sold over 40million records worldwide and Live In The Heartland takes its audience on a journey from their 1980 UK top 10 hit Keep On Loving You to 1985's Can't Fight This Feeling and then on to tracks from their 2007 album release Find Your Own Way Home.



OFF THE SHELF

Catch a Fish from the Sea (Using the Internet) — Nasreen Akhtar

AFFECTIONATELY known as the Asian Bridget Jones, Nasreen Akhtar's compelling debut novel will strike a chord in the hearts of anyone searching for love.

Witty and honest, Catch a Fish ... is not about angling as its title would suggest but centres around one woman's determination to hook a suitor from the bottomless depths of the world wide web.

Nasreen's account begins with an hilarious opening scene of her parent's fervency to find a Muslim husband for their ageing (late 20s) daughter.

Of course, Muslim matrimonials are not quite what this 21st-century cosmopolitan girl has in mind for her rosy future and Nas-

reen sets out on an intrepid trawl to find the man of her dreams.

Nasreen's flowing narrative in its chatty, bare-all style, brings the reader into her heart to experience first-hand the emotional roller-coaster

caused by the daunting task she has set herself.

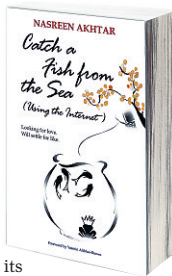
The book is already attracting much interest from the publishing world.

It was nominated as the Book to Talk About during this year's World Book Day and Asian Women's Book of the Month.

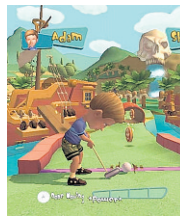
Nasreen holds a post-graduate degree in Linguistics from Goldsmiths' College, University of London.

She is a freelance copywriter and proprietor of the publishing imprint Greenbirds.

She was born in 1974 and came to the UK with her Pakistani parents when she was four.



SONIC HEADLINES



Carnival Games: Mini Golf (3+) — Wii

GET READY for a hole in fun as the whacky, weird and wonderful mini golf theme steps up a whole new level.

Hot on the heels of the million-selling original, this little stroke of genius brings the larger-than-life, theme park style miniature golf courses to the Wii.

Whether back in time to the land of dinosaurs, keeping order in the Wild West or searching for a buried treasure in Pirate's Cove, the game combines traditional mini-golf fare with action-oriented game play, utilising the unique capabilities of the Wii Remote.

There are 27 larger-than-life holes spanning nine theme-park style courses with over 100 usable prizes up for grabs.

To add to the fun, the game-play is action-oriented so players will be forced to battle pirate ships, dodge alligators, jive to jungle beats, soar through the air as a pterodactyl and shoot ghostly ghouls while trying to get around the course.

You'll never have more fun with a putter.

More Touchmaster (7+) — NDS

THE BEAUTY of the Nintendo DS lies in the challenge.

Brain training is not just a subject on its own, it runs right through the games.

More Touch Master offers 20 more tests for reaction and quick thinking.

Super Mahki takes the strategy block disposing challenge to a new level just that bit more difficult and absorbing.

MTM comes with five card games including Combo 11 and Speed Solitaire; five action such as bowling, billiards and racing with Speed Demon; three strategy; four pictures, including View Finder and Scavenger; and three puzzles of which Spellwinder is probably the best as a word search game with a twist.

Hours of addictive fun that could be that ideal Christmas present.

Mechanic Master (7+) — NDS

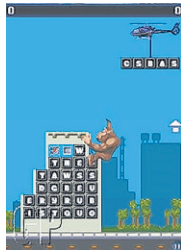
AND IF you need a break from Touchmaster, get your thinking cap on for the next brain-teasing gadget fest of mechanics.

This is a fun problem-solving game for creative minds.

Mechanic Master uses the stylus as a weapon to rid the Earth of alien invaders that have scattered across the planet.

Become the ultimate Master of Mechanics by creating crazy contraptions to free humans, keep the mechanics in motion and defeat those pesky foes.

This is a true test of skill with more than 100 levels, with cool gadgets, a drawing mode, level editor and, of course, the compulsory game-sharing which allows you to show off your genius to your wide-eyed buddies.



Singstar Singalong and Singstar Boybands v Girlband — PS2

THE WONDERFUL magic of Disney comes from its timeless music as much as its spell-binding animation, from The Little Mermaid to Peter Pan, to Aladdin and Toy Story.

With Disney fans of all ages in mind, SingStar Singalong With Disney proves that no-one is ever too old for fairytales.

Each magical track is accompanied by clips from the original Disney movies, which means that your favourite characters appear on screen as you sing along to Aladdin, The Jungle Book, Toy Story, The Little Mermaid and Pinocchio.

And there's nothing like getting a party started than a bit of friendly competition between the sexes.

There is no end of inspirational things you can do for a laugh with this noisy little number Boybands vs Girlbands.

Those who can't sing, can always dress up, in true party fashion.

So, set the field, choose your champions and prepare for a bloodless battle in the living room this Christmas. **Sonic Head**

WINWINWINWINWINWINWINWIN

17 films to win

STUCK for what to get the film fans in your family this Christmas?

Freemantle Home Entertainment has a range of brilliant movies carefully picked to go together that you can mix and match without breaking the bank.

All the films are available to buy individually but why not try one of the suggested combinations as a gift idea?

For one lucky reader we're giving away all four sets which adds up to 17 DVDs.

In the Hard Men collection, viewers get action-packed dramas like Lee Marvin in Hell in the Pacific, Walter Matthau in Charley Varrick, Steve McQueen in Junior Bonner and Charlton Heston in Gray Lady

Down.

Classic Comedies includes the talents of Peter Sellers in The Prisoner of Zenda, Albert Finney in Charlie Bubbles, Sidney Poitier in For Love of Ivy, Tony Curtis in Suppose They Gave a War and Nobody Came? and Henry Winkler in Heroes.

Award Winners brings together a glittering cavalcade of stars in Oscar-nominated and winning films including Jack Nicholson in Prizzi's Honor, Joseph Cotton in Duel in the Sun, Alan Arkin in The Seven Per Cent Solution, Meryl Streep in Silkwood and Jane Fonda in They Shoot Horses Don't They?

Finally we have cool comedy flashbacks with the 80s Collection including Kate Capshaw in Space Camp, the John Hughes-



scripted National Lampoon's Class Reunion and Matt Dillon in The Flamingo Kid.

Competition

For a chance to win all four sets, simply study the question below and write your answer on a postcard, together with your name, address and daytime contact number and send it to: Films competition, The Standard, Glasgow Road, Dumfries. DG2

ONA, to reach us no later than Friday, November 21.

Question: Which Oscar-winning star appeared in Prizzi's Honour?

The winner will be chosen from a random draw and notified by post. Usual Scottish and Universal Newspaper competition rules apply, a copy of which may be obtained from the deputy editor by writing to the above address.