

The Power of Myth

Proving that even an interview format can succeed if done with passion, this famous set of conversations between Joseph Campbell and Bill Moyers on the power of myths still delivers a very powerful punch. —KK
VHS \$89.98 (box set of six volumes), \$21.99 each

Ring of Fire: An Indonesian Odyssey

The best travel documentary series ever made. For ten years two brothers lived in, adventured throughout, and mastered the islands of Indonesia. They delve into this truly esoteric culture with reckless enthusiasm and true love. And they film a lot of bizarre events. This is travel as art. —KK
VHS \$77.98 (box set of four volumes), \$21.99 each

Roger & Me

Rabble-rouser Michael Moore tosses out the ideal of journalistic "impartiality" and makes a documentary that's more like guerilla theater than reportage. By turns, the film is funny, pathetic, ironic, and infuriating. Is it about General Motors? Flint, Michigan? Michael Moore? Who knows? It's mostly about power and access to power. (Also worth catching is the film's sequel, *Pets or Meat*.) —RK
VHS, \$13.99

Stop Making Sense

Lying somewhere between a high-concept theater piece and a down and dirty rock show, *Stop Making Sense* captures the band Talking Heads at the height of their energy and inventiveness. —RK
VHS, \$17.99; DVD \$23.96

Superstar: The Karen Carpenter Story

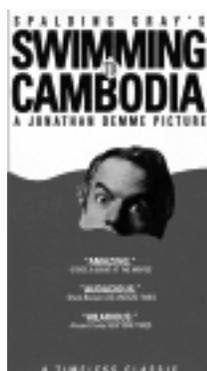
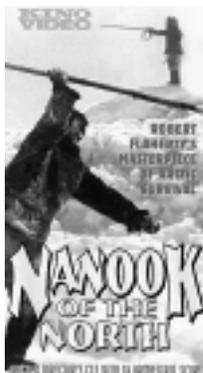
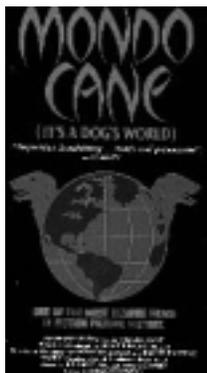
The life and death of 70s pop star Karen Carpenter is told as a bizarre shockumentary--with Barbie dolls standing in for actors. Halfway between a twisted after-school special and a vaguely obscene puppet show, this film offended more than just the Carpenter family. You can't find it anywhere. Look for bootlegs where you can. —RK

Survival Research Laboratories: A Bitter Message of Hopeless Grief

Robot performance group Survival Research Laboratories stages scenarios of machine violence and conceptual madness. This recording is not a document of a public event, but a performance, shot on a set as SRL's machines move through a Bosch-like landscape of fire and meat, wrecking havoc. —RK
<http://srl.org/video/vidindex.html#videos>, \$25

Swimming to Cambodia

Spalding Gray's cleverly staged monologue is both a tall tale and a reflection on acting in *The Killing Fields*, the fall of Cambodia (and subsequent genocide) and his own search for spirituality. —RK
VHS, \$13.99



Theremin

Some lives need a movie. Russian inventor Leon Theremin created the world's first electronic instrument, and it bore his name. He was an outstanding success in the 1920s and 30s, but in the 40s, he disappeared. This film looks at Theremin's overlooked life and work, and reveals the reasons for his disappearance and brief reappearance in his 90s. Interviews include theremin virtuoso Clara Rockmore and synthesizer pioneer Robert Moog. —RK
VHS, \$13.99

Thin Blue Line

A modern-day *Rashomon*, set in Texas. This version of the tale involves a real man, named Randall Adams, claiming innocence while stuck on death row. The film hypnotically plays out his alleged murder of a cop over and over, each time according to different witnesses, until the "evidence" of the crime collapses under the tainted weight of so many versions. This was a new form of nonfiction film and it helped free an innocent man from prison. How many films can claim that? —RK
VHS, \$9.99

Tokyo-Ga

German director Wim Wenders goes to Tokyo in search of...Tokyo. Not the real city, but the filmic Tokyo from the Japanese films that influenced his early work. Wender's journey lets us see a formidable talent in the act of experimenting and growing. —RK

Unzipped

The concept is simple. Reveal what really happens as a world-class couture designer develops, in fits and starts, his fall line. Show the factual side of a fashion show. The result is both hilarious and mesmerizing. Unexpectedly I came to appreciate fashion designers as artists, even though I have zero fashion sense. —KK
VHS, \$26.99



Netflix

Netflix rents DVDs on an all-you-can-watch subscription basis. You can rent as many movies as you want (but no more than three at a time) by paying \$20 per month. That includes free shipping coming and going, a task made easy by handy mailers. Great selection, shades of the video-on-demand world coming. It's filmaholic heaven. —Richard Kadrey

www.netflix.com

