AUGUST 1994 • ISSUE 7 • £1.95

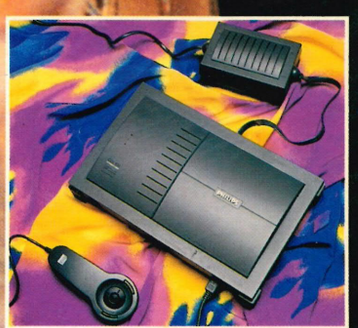
Films • Music • Games • Video CD • Kids

CDi

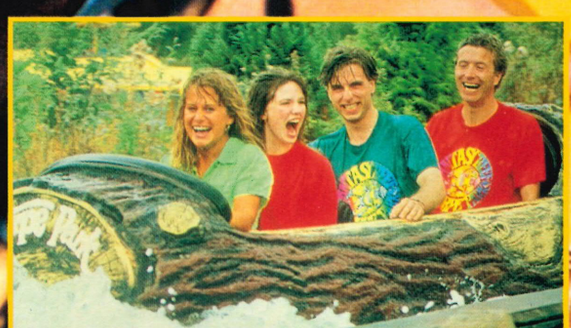
£10,000 TO BE WON!
SEE NOAH'S ARK REVIEW, PAGE 52

BOWIE LEADS THE VIDEO CD REVOLUTION

First five music discs released



SCOOP
The new 450 CD*i* player



THORPE PARK
win a day trip!

WORLD EXCLUSIVE

MUTANT RAMPAGE

CLUEDO PREVIEW

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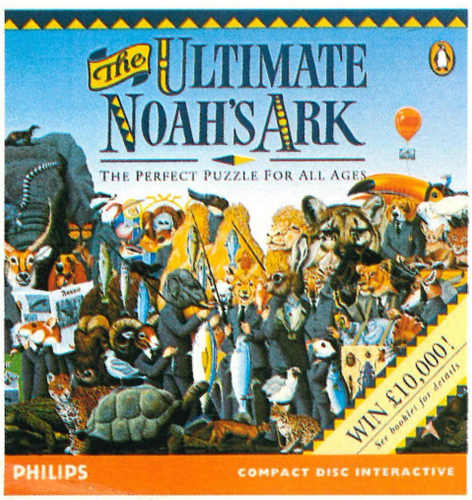
£10,000 TO BE WON IN THE ULTIMATE CD-i COMPETITION



The ULTIMATE NOAH'S ARK

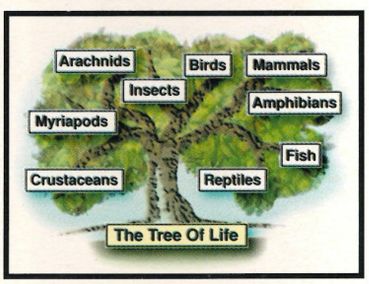
A TANTALISING COMPLEX NEW PUZZLE BASED ON THE BOOK BY MIKE WILKS, CREATOR OF THE ULTIMATE ALPHABET, THE LEGENDARY NO. 1 BESTSELLER THAT SOLD OVER A QUARTER OF A MILLION COPIES

The Ultimate Noah's Ark CD-i is a wickedly testing game based on Mike Wilks' latest intriguing puzzle book. The images on the disc, which together make up a remarkable painting,contain 707 creatures, of which 353 are painted twice, once for each sex, but a single creature is painted alone and without a mate. The deceptively simple mystery is to find the missing animal and identify its gender. Only by eliminating all the pairs one by one will the missing animal be found. While some pairs of animals are easy to spot, others have been concealed in all manner of guises. It's upto you to apply all your skills to seek out the missing animal - and claim your prize.





Menu screen



Classification tree

Win £10,000 by pinpointing the missing animal

- Explore the painting in high-resolution detail – 256 screens in all, hours of entertainment and intrigue.
- Use a unique tagging system to track your progress as you pair off the animals.
- Solve the brain-twisting CD-i picture puzzles and win special CD-i prizes.
- See selected videos of the animals in their natural habitat.
- Discover the facts about our natural heritage – for each species you can find out: *Where it lives, its size compared to man, its place in the animal kingdom and the scale of the threat to its existence*
- Entry details in the disc.

PHILIPS **PHILIPS**

PENGUIN BOOKS

inside all the latest news, reviews and scoops for CD INTERACTIVE

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Mutant Rampage: at last, a proper beat'em up on CDi



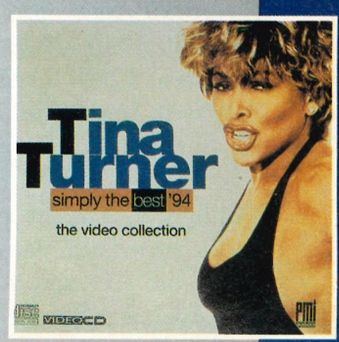
The way we listen to music and watch our pop videos is about to change. David Bowie, Prince and Peter Gabriel have all released their first interactive albums. Now music giant PMI is adopting the much vaunted Video CD format to re-release a number of its best-selling VHS music videos on compact disc.

The difference to the consumer will be palpable. With the advent of Video CD, you will be able to hear your favourite tracks in digital stereo, while at the same time viewing the accompanying video off the same CD. The days when we buy audio-only CDs are coming to an end.

Of course, that is only half the story as Bowie and others have realised. The next step is to make an album truly interactive, so that you, the user, can edit your own videos, play around with the music and find out more about the artist.

As Bowie points out in our interview (page 32), creating an interactive music disc is an entirely different process from creating a traditional album. It requires a new way of thinking for both the artist and the user, and people are only just beginning to understand the technology. Rest assured, it won't take long.

Andy Clough, Editor



Tina Turner makes her debut on Video CD, courtesy of PMI. See page 26 for full details



Win £10,000 by entering the Noah's Ark competition on CDi - see review on page 52



COVER
Designed by Ursula Morgan. Photograph David Bowie. Copyright Universal Pictorial Press & Agency

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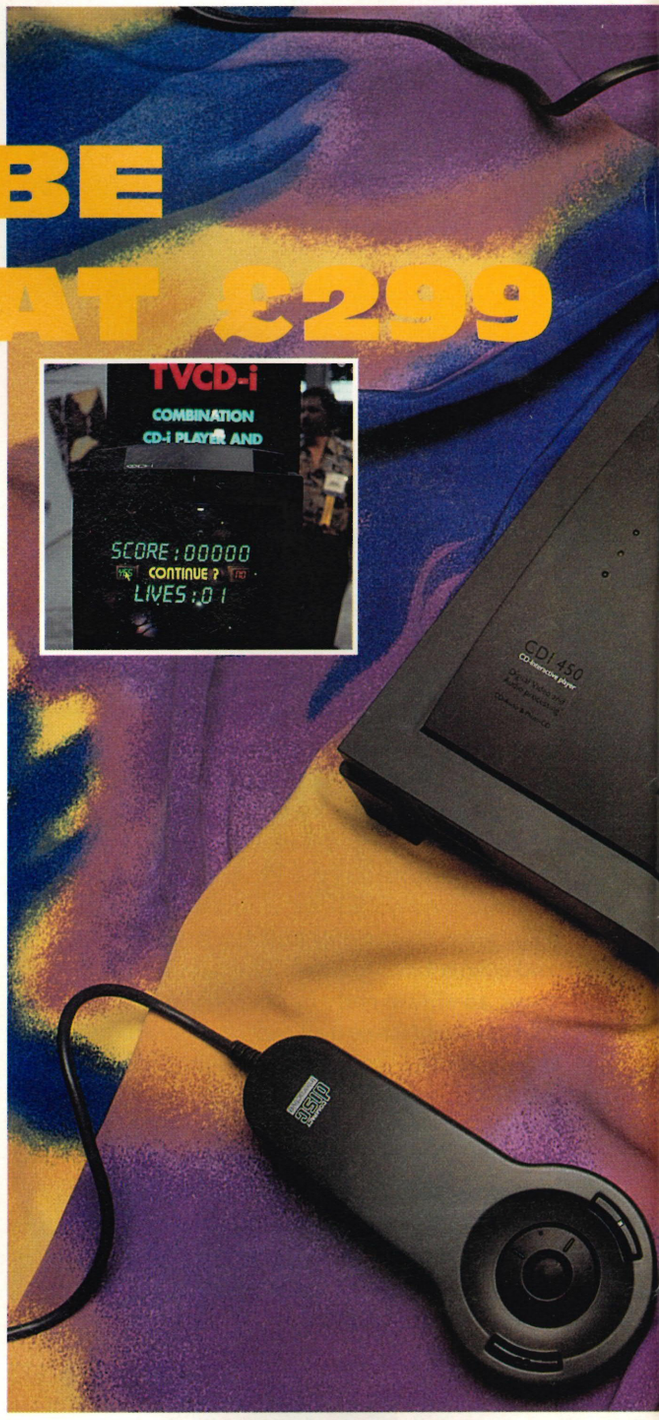
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Andy Clough reports on developments at the Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago

CDi 450 TO BE LAUNCHED AT £299



The cost of CDi hardware has dropped below £300 with the news that the new Philips 450 CDi player will go on sale in the UK this September at £299.

The company unveiled its new family of CDi players - the 450 and 550 - at the Consumer Electronics Show in Chicago.

The 450 is already available in the US at $299. It will be bundled with International Tennis Open when it goes on sale here.

The 450 is significantly smaller and lighter than the existing 210 and is aimed at a younger market. It has an external power pack, wired controller and can be fitted with a new, smaller Digital Video cartridge.

The 550 - identical to the 450 but with the DV cartridge included - will cost £449. It will be bundled with two-player Tennis and The 7th Guest.

Both machines represent the first shot in Philips's aggressive new hardware strategy. "These new transportable models are a quarter of the size of the first CDi player and are priced far cheaper, yet deliver the same performance and features," says Paul Fredrickson, vice president of marketing for Philips Interactive Media Systems.

Also on show at CES for the first time were a combination TV/CDi unit and a stacking hi-fi system incorporating a CDi player. The CDi TV will be launched in Europe later this year. The existing 210 CDi player will continue to be sold alongside the 450 and 550. It costs £399 in base case form.

"The CDi 450 is deliberately designed to take CDi into an important new market sector," says Leigh Robinson, director CDi hardware, UK.

In the first quarter of 1995, Philips will introduce a mini hi-fi stack system including a base case CDi player (with the possibility of a DV upgrade), tuner, amplifier and double cassette deck. Another stack model, which will be launch shortly afterwards, will include a seven disc CDi changer.

WIN A DISC A DAY!

Philips is giving away a free copy of International Tennis Open every day until 31 August.

All you have to do is phone the new Philips Clubline and answer a simple question. You will also be entered for a prize draw to win a Philips Sound Machine. The number to ring is 0891 244424. Calls cost 36p per minute cheap rate, 39p at all other times (maximum cost £3.68). Please get permission from the person paying the phone bill before making your call.

DIGITAL DECODER



Compression Labs Inc and Philips have developed a set-top digital decoder to send films, games and edutainment titles down a telephone line to a TV set in the home. The system, which contains CDi's sophisticated graphics package and the MPEG Digital Video compression system, has been selected by Bell Atlantic as the delivery system for its planned "information highway" network in the US. Trials are due to begin in early 1995.

The system uses essential CDi technology. This includes a Motorola 68000 chip and an easy-to-use on-screen interface. It incorporates Microware's advanced OS-9 multimedia operating system.

Users will be able to access titles from the network by using a smart card which is fed into the box on top of the TV.



INTERPLAY TO RELEASE THREE GAMES ON CDi

Leading US video games publisher Interplay Productions is to develop and publish three high quality games for CDi.

The deal, between Interplay and Philips Media Games, will bring Lost Vikings, Battle Chess and a third (as yet unnamed title) to the CDi format. They will be distributed by Philips.

"This is a terrific endorsement from one of the industry's finest producers," says David McElhatten, president of Philips Media Games. "Interplay's commitment to publish in the CDi format is yet another significant step in the continuing growth of this publishing platform."

Lost Vikings, an award-winning puzzle/strategy game, is a brain-twisting adventure where players must lead three Vikings off a mysterious spaceship back to their homeland in Scandahoovia. The title contains 43 levels and the CDi version will have never seen before Digital Video animation.

Battle Chess brings players of the classic strategy game into a humorous medieval world where the characters jump to life in dramatic 3D animation. The title has 45 minutes of CD quality audio and animated tutorials that teach players each piece's movement, history and strategy.

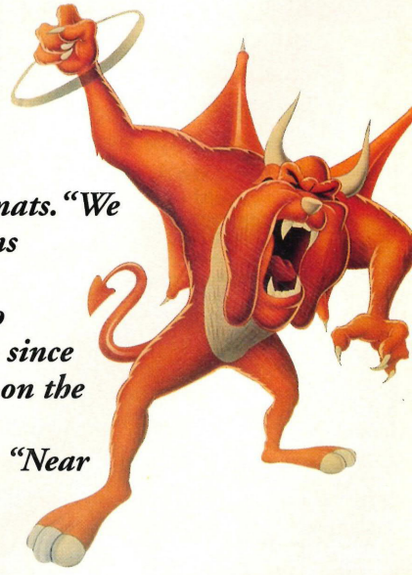
Interplay Productions, founded in 1983, manufactures and distributes a wide range of award-winning entertainment and educational software.

PHILIPS SIGNS LITIL DIVIL II: THE LIMBO YEARS

Gremlin Graphics is to produce a sequel to Litil Divil on CDi and other CD formats. "We have signed an agreement with Philips to produce Litil Divil II on CDi," confirms Gremlin Ireland founder Ian Hadley.

In the sequel, events will take place outside the Labyrinth of Chaos in the "Limbo Years". The central character, Mutt, has been living a life of debauchery in limbo since he ate the Mystic Pizza of Plenty in Litil Divil I. He now runs a sleazy nightclub on the edge of town, but St Peter is about to make a visit and cancel the state of limbo.

If Mutt is to avoid being pushed back into the Labyrinth of Chaos, and ascend to "Near Vanna", he must transform his nightclub into a shrine of saved souls. He has to find the five tradesmen to carry out the transformation, and so must journey to the five cities of Limbo. "It will be the usual mix of puzzle solving and exploration," says Hadley. The title will be released in mid-1995.



For a full review of Litil Divil I, see page 18.

NEW KIDS ON THE BLOCK

The Family Entertainment division of Philips America unveiled several new titles at CES in Chicago.

The Crayon Factory features renowned children's entertainer, Shari Lewis, as the voice of the main character, Saturday. Saturday is a robot who works at one of the happiest places on earth, the Crayon Factory. But problems begin with the arrival of Mr Penn who is sent to manage the factory and wants to make big changes.

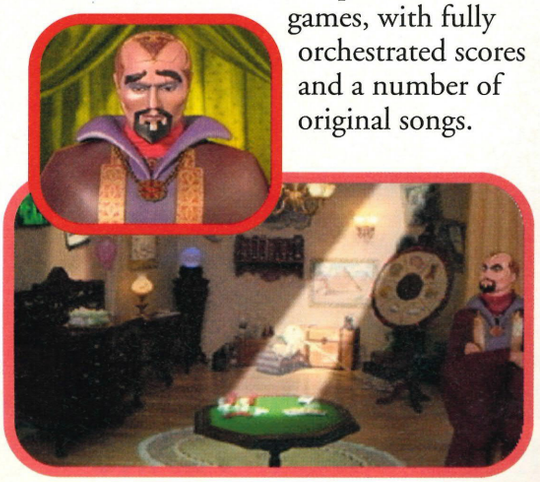
As young children enter the factory, they can choose to explore different departments or watch the story unfold.

The Crayon Factory is produced by Philips SideWalk Studio.

Max Magic's Electronic Magic Kit is the world's first electronic magic kit. This title enlists the help of renowned mentalist Max Maven, who has entertained audiences in more than 20 countries. Max Maven's humorous alter ego, Max Magic, guides children through an absorbing trip into the mysterious world of illusion and helps them create their own, personal interactive magic shows. There are 14 magic tricks on the disc, which is produced by P F Magic (see Kids' Stuff, page 42).

The Joker's Wild Jr transforms the living room into a "virtual game show" for the family to enjoy and learn together. It is based on the popular US television games show. Up to four players can answer from a selection of more than 1,900 questions in 65 categories. The Joker's Wild Jr is produced by Accent Media.

No release dates have been set for the above titles in the UK.



Philips America is to develop four CDi children's titles with Media Station of Michigan, US. The four discs will be produced on CDi and CD-ROM. Media Station produces entertainment and educational products designed for the home market. The new titles will be designed for children and their families, and will include puzzles and games, with fully orchestrated scores and a number of original songs.



MOVIE NEWS

Indecent Proposal is the first film from Philips and Paramount to be released to the new multi-platform Video CD (White Book) standard. All future CD films released by Philips will adhere to the standard.

Video CD enables films and music videos to be played on a variety of hardware platforms, including computers fitted with a special MPEG board.

In the US, Philips is introducing special "added value" films on Video CD with additional features such as information on the actors, interviews with the producers and clips about the making of the title.

One of the first to have these features will be Posse. Viewers will be able to access information on licensed film merchandise from an on-screen General Store. A section called Blacks in the Old West offers information about the history of the early west and sources for additional

FULL MOON TO TURN FILMS INTO GAMES

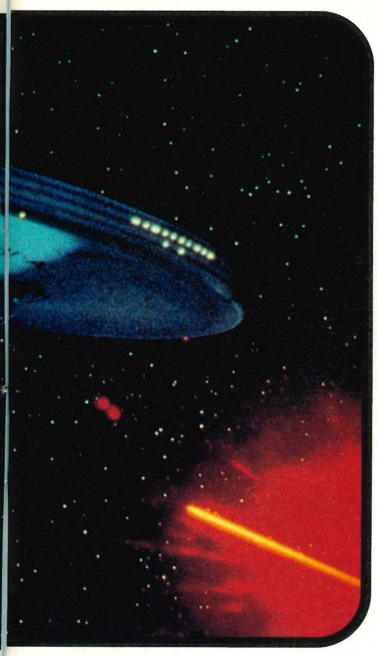
Full Moon Entertainment is set to produce three cinematic action/adventure games based on its film portfolio for CDi. The deal between Philips Media Games and the independent US production/distribution company will lead to **Josh Kirby...Time Warrior** and **Arcade 2** being the first two Full Moon films to be developed into games.

"We've been looking forward to creating interactive video games based on our original characters and films for a long time," says Charles Bank, president and chief executive of Full Moon Entertainment. "Since we develop everything from the ground up, it affords us the unique advantage to integrate our interactive projects into our films from their inception."

Josh Kirby...Time Warrior is a series of six films which revolve around 14 year-old Josh Kirby, a teenager who finds himself caught in a battle across space-time between two brilliant scientists for control of a powerful weapon called the Nullifier.

Arcade 2 returns viewers to a video game machine with a life of its own. In this world, only three rules apply: you have three lives, you play multiple levels and you must destroy what lurks at the nerve centre of the machine or be eaten by the machine if you lose.

The video game versions will use film footage and computer generated special effects from the films. Both companies will work closely together throughout the production process.



Far left: Robert Redford and Demi Moore star in Indecent Proposal. Left: Star Trek VI

reading. There are also filmmaker and actor biographies, and a Photo Gallery containing vintage photographs.

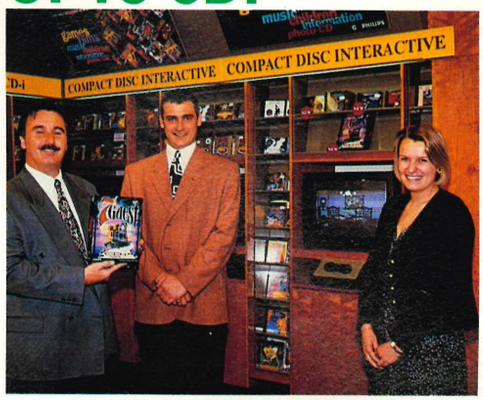
Star Trek VI: The Undiscovered Country was also shown at CES with similar features, including trivia information for hardened Trekkie fans and a behind-the-scenes feature about the making of the film, including an interview with Leonard Nimoy . Throughout the rest of this year, Philips America will release a number of collector's series on Video CD: James Bond, Star Trek, Naked Gun, Beverly Hills Cop, Wayne's World and Robocop.

Films due for release in the US this summer include Wayne's World, Addams Family Values, X-Men, A Fish Called Wanda, Trading Places and Moonstruck.

Due out this autumn are: Dances With Wolves, Rainman, Thelma & Louise, Silence of the Lambs, Apocalypse Now and Raging Bull.

Please note that UK film release dates may vary from those in the US.

HARRODS ADOPTS CDi



Top London department store Harrods has dedicated part of its new Sound & Vision department to CDi.

The revamped department is situated on the fourth floor of the Knightsbridge department store, and while traditional computer games formats have moved down to the games department, CDi has been given its own dedicated space in the Sound & Vision area.

Michael Mulligan, software manager at Harrods, was persuaded to switch the space he had previously dedicated to PC games to stock CDi software instead. The new department now stocks the entire CDi catalogue of 120 titles.

Philips Media accounts manager Matthew Castle worked with publicity manager Carol Russell to create the display. There are three Philips CDi players on show which customers can use to try out the latest software releases.

FORTHCOMING RELEASES

AUGUST:

FILMS (VCD)
A Fish Called Wanda £17.99
Naked Gun 1 £17.99
Sliver £17.99
GAMES
Litil Divil (DV) £39.99
Earth Command £34.99
The Ultimate Noah's Ark £24.99
KIDS
Sticky Bear Maths £24.99
Surf City £15.99
MUSIC (DV)
Sting - Ten Summoner's Tales £17.99

SEPTEMBER:

GAMES
Mad Dog McCree with gun (DV) £69.99
Dimo's Quest £TBA
Kiss (teenage girls) £19.99
What's It Worth? £TBA
KIDS
Flintstones/Jetsons Timewarp £15.99
Muzzy (DV) £29.99

All release dates are provisional. Prices are subject to change. DV/VCD = requires a Philips Digital Video cartridge.

CYBERCITY SEQUEL

A Digital Video sequel to the Japanese animated thriller **CyberCity** is under development and will be released in the US this autumn.



The game is an action-packed mission to rescue CyberCity from the evil Guardian and his forces. It will contain brand new sequences in full Digital Video.

Another new game in development is **Jeopardy**, which brings Alex Trebek of the famous US television game show right into your living room. You can test your knowledge in dozens of categories and around 2,000 questions. It will be released in the US this autumn. Also on show at CES was a new platform game called **The Apprentice**, produced by The Vision Factory. This will be launched in the UK first, and then the US.

STOP PRESS!

Philips is to release three Monty Python CDi discs to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the famous comedy team.

There will be a karaoke disc featuring Monty Python songs, a selection of best sketches from the team's films and TV programmes, and an interactive game called Skyron: Invasion from the Planet (due out for Christmas).

The sketches disc, called Monty Python's More Naughty Bits, will feature familiar clips from classics such as The Life of Brian and The Holy Grail. It will have sound tracks in four languages: French, German, Dutch and English.

Life With Monty Python, the karaoke title, will feature 18 songs with video clips. Users will be able to listen to the songs, just sing along without the soundtrack or select sub-titles.

The first two discs will be released in October.





CDi fans have keen crying out for a good old fashioned beat'em up. Help is at hand, as ANDY STOUT explains

MUTANT RAMPAGE



Violence on CDi has been rather a scarce commodity so far. Yes, it's all very nice to watch polygons twist and rotate on the screen or wade through some rather fancy Digital Video animation. It may be thrilling and wonderful to smack tennis balls over the net, pilot spaceships, jump platforms, or solve murder mysteries in spooky mansions, but it doesn't have much of a bodycount, does it?

Bodycount though, as rapper Ice-T once said, is now well and truly in the house.

Mutant Rampage is probably the first real explosion of violent, senseless death on the CDi. Okay, so you could count Caesar's World Of Boxing as weighing in suspiciously on the being vicious to people who take steroids front, but that's not really the same. That had rules.

This game completely fails to have any rules whatsoever; just lots of smacking people round the chops with your feet, hands, elbows, or whatever bit of handy building material you can find lying around. Lots of Mortal Kombat-style gobbets of pixelated blood flying round the screen. Educational? Erm, well, not exactly. Rather good fun though.

As you would expect from all this on-screen, scrolling mayhem, the plot is rather superfluous to the whole thing. Mutant Rampage is set in a post-apocalyptic world where the bombs have gone off, society's disintegrated and all that seems to be left are the joys of going round beating people round the head. As such, you visit ten cities (each with its own team of mutants) in what seems to be a World Cup sort of thing (presumably interest in organised football games having dissipated somewhat) and indulge in vast amounts



Right: an assortment of the various dodgy characters you will meet along the way. Below: Mutant Rampage is set in a post-apocalyptic world where everything has been nuked. Note the gorgeous backgrounds!















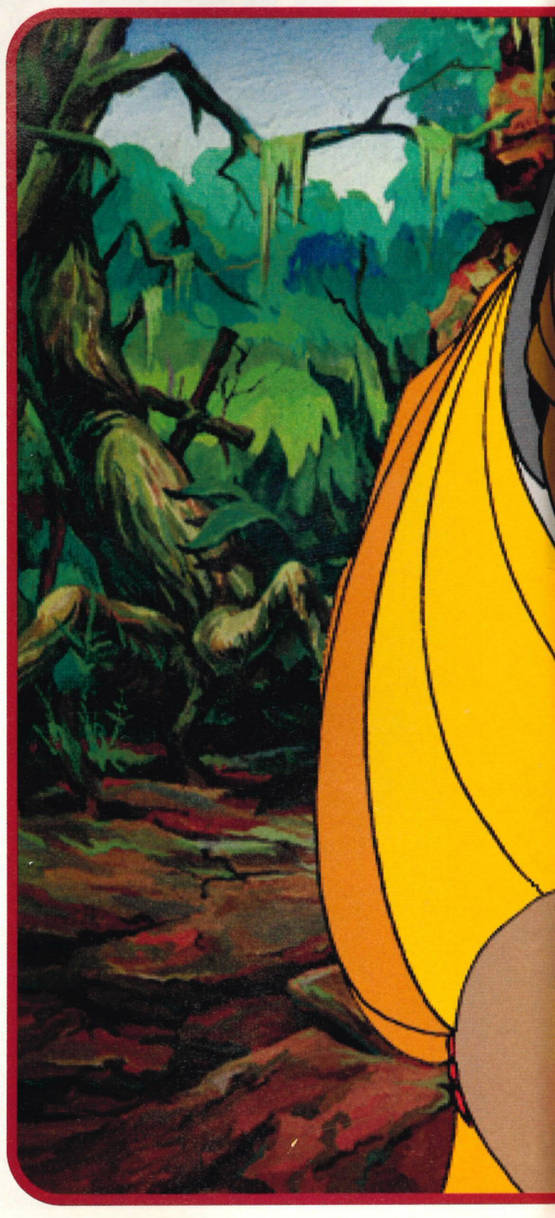
of testosterone-fuelled fiestyness.

One of the joys of scrolling beat-'em-ups like this is that they are so simple to play. It really is just a case of picking up the joypad, working out which button makes you jump and which makes you lash out, and that's basically it. That doesn't make the game unchallenging, though. There might be a tendancy to degenerate into button-stabbing mode at times (especially when you tend to get surrounded by four or five of the enemy on quite a regular basis), but the action is fast and adrenalin-stuffed enough to dispel any feelings of monotony.

The format is roughly the same as games that have appeared on other platforms (most notably the Streets Of Rage series on the Mega Drive). The screen scrolls from left to right, with a certain amount of baddies having to be dispatched with gusto before you can move on.

Kicks and punches are quite simple with none of the complicated button gymnastics that the standard beat-'em up requires, though it's important to remember to play to your team strengths.

Your team has three members and each member has different attributes. Daemon Stone (who must have taken serious amounts of horse steroids at some point in his life to get muscles like that) is powerful enough to inflict huge amounts of damage on the opposition, but is really slow and likely to get pummelled if he doesn't get out of the way quickly enough. Rack Saxxon is







blur of frenzied violence.

Every so often the on-screen objects that you knock over to reveal food or drink to whack up your power bar contain a tag button. Stand on this and press fire and you can call one of your buddies into the fray. This is useful depending on who you're up against. Stone is rather handy against one big, powerful opponent, Tory good against a handful of weaker ones.

a bit of an all-rounder (averagely fast, averagely powerful), but Tory Swift - a rather tough looking female - is probably the best fighter. She's very quick, and though each punch or kick doesn't inflict that much damage, Tory's limbs can go into a



And that's the gameplay. We will not, I think, be publishing a complete guide to this one in the future.

But if that sounds slightly dismissive of the whole game, just contemplate the backgrounds. Admittedly, the sprite animation looks a couple of years out of date and doesn't really come close to maximising the CDi's full potential (though this is an early worm and there's still time for improvement), but these backgrounds are jolly sumptuous. They actually look blasted by obscene amounts of radiation and bathed in nuclear fireballs, and add an extraordinary amount of atmosphere to the whole game. And the final version of the disc will have full-screen animation to boot.

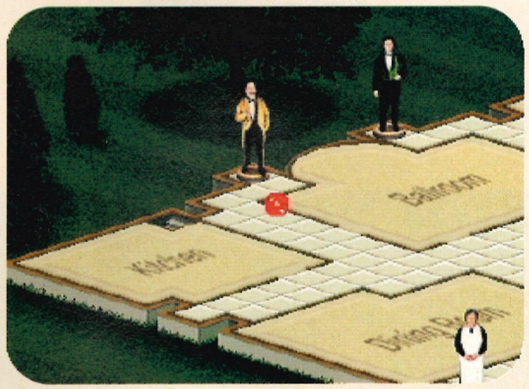
Okay, so it's a bit annoying to be admiring some detail of the urban hell you're fighting in and getting a foot slammed in your gut 'cos you haven't been paying attention, but compared to some of the half-hearted dross out there, the odd kidney-punch to your team is worth it.

Brilliant, Mutant Rampage isn't. An enjoyable, dumb and bloodthirsty game it most certainly is. The CDi's bodycount has just increased dramatically.

Produced by Animation Magic
Cost: TBA
Available: October







CLUEDO

While remaining faithful to the original board game, Cluedo on CDi is a slick and polished electronic game for all the family, says Andy Clough



Was it Colonel Mustard in the library with the gun? Or could it have been Mrs White in the kitchen with the spanner?

In fact, in this case, it was Miss Peacock in the library with the knife. After nearly two hours' play, I finally pinned down the murderer and the offending weapon.

3T Productions has been working on a CDi version of the classic Waddingtons board game for over a year (see issue1) and the fruits of its labours are now becoming apparent. The pre-production disc we had was a very polished affair indeed, with everything seemingly in place and working properly, although a few changes may be made to the final production version.

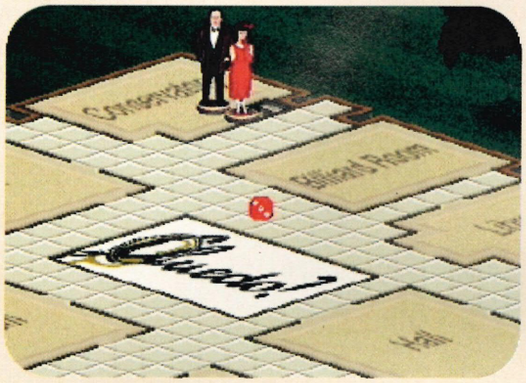
Cluedo on CDi bears all the hallmarks of the original game. The familiar characters are there - Mrs White, Colonel Mustard, Professor Plum et al - but this time they appear for real in full Digital Video sequences. Real actors were filmed on location at Arley Hall in Knutsford, Cheshire to give the game a more realistic feel. It works.

The really clever thing about the CDi version is that there are three different plots, and within each plot four





Far left: Colonel Mustard in the drawing room. Middle: identify the potential murder weapon. Left: could there be trouble in the conservatory?





separate possible outcomes. So each time you load the disc into the CDi player, the machine will automatically choose a different storyline.

The introduction begins with the butler, played menacingly by Terence Harvey, setting the scene for the plot. You then select your chosen character, and can play on your own or with up to five other players. To throw the dice, just press action button 2 and the number of squares you can move will be highlighted on the playing board.

Once inside a room, the real fun begins. You must search for clues and evidence of the murder. The cursor changes shape and colour to enable you to carry out a number of functions.

For example, a red magnifying glass signifies an item that can be examined more closely. A movie camera, found by a clock, accesses a "flashback" video sequence which may give further clues. If you find a weapon in a room, you will be told whose fingerprints are on it.

To interrogate your suspects, you must summon the butler by finding a yellow bell and clicking on it. You will be able to select your suspect from the pictures on the butler's tray, and then ask them if they know anything about the weapon, what their alibi is or if they have any other observations. Only the murderer will lie, so listen carefully to what everyone says!

You can also ask the other characters for their observations as you try and unravel the plot. If you get really stuck, you can ask the butler for a clue, but this means you will lose one of your chances to solve the mystery.

Once you think you know the answer, you must enter the room where you believe the murder took place. You then summon the butler, click on the handcuffs and give the name of your suspect and murder weapon. If you are right, the butler explains all. If you are wrong, you get another go.

Playing the game can take anything from 30 minutes to several hours. Much of it depends on luck - how soon you find the murder weapon, and whether you ask the right questions at the right time - but actually solving the problem is down to skill and observation.

This is a very, very slick production. Imagine a country house murder mystery, like The 7th Guest in some ways, but with real actors and video footage. Seeing your opponents appear on screen and talk to you is an unnerving experience at first, especially for those used to playing the "ordinary" board game. But it undeniably adds an element of realism to the proceedings.

A strong cast, including Joan Sims as Mrs White, David Healy as Professor Plum and John Standing as Colonel Mustard, undeniably helps. 3T has certainly not skimped on the production values, and it is good to see an independent British company developing a game specifically for CDi.

Cluedo deserves to succeed. It is a very slick title and remains faithful to the original version. Of course, as with other similar "point and click" titles, such as Voyeur, there are a limited number of outcomes. This means that once you have learnt all of them, you may become bored with it. But 3T has managed to squeeze 12 scenarios into the game, which is pretty good going.

Fans of the shoot 'em up games may find Cluedo a little slow and limiting, but they are not necessarily the target audience. This is a new genre of electronic gaming, that even your grandmother could enjoy, and the whole family can play together.

CDi is perfect for this type of game and the Digital Video cartridge gives the film sequences a quality other platforms can only dream of. 3T is likely to release a sequel with another three storylines on a second disc some time next year.



Cost: TBA
Out: October
Produced by 3T Productions





DRAGON'S LAIR 2

The Time Warp



More interactive and less complicated, MAT TOOR finds that Dragon's Lair 2 has smoothed out the wrinkles of the original

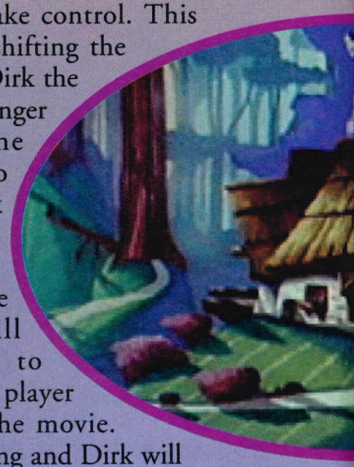
There you are, an off duty warrior, having a quiet bowl of porridge with some munchkin-like kids. Suddenly, out of nowhere, this fearsome Helga in lederhosen rumbles out of the kitchen and starts assaulting you with a rolling pin. She calls you a "dumpkopf!" because you have allowed the Princess Daphne to be kidnapped. It's going to be one of those days again.

We are back in the fantasy world of Don Bluth - a land where men are gangling but brave, women are buxom but helpless and the kids are so damn cute you want to strangle them with cheese wire (especially the ones with mid-Atlantic accents and freckles!).

Dragon's Lair 2: The Time Warp is the sequel to Dragon's Lair. The storyline concerns the evil wizard Mordrok who has kidnapped Dirk the Daring's girlfriend, the ineffectual Princess Daphne, and shut her away in a "wrinkle in time" (whatever that is). The man's job, as usual, is to pick up the pieces and rescue the maiden before something frightful happens to her. In this instance, being forced to marry Mordrok, wear the "Death Ring", change into a warty old hag and be forever imprisoned in the Time Warp. Curiously, the gang of hideously cute kids is never explained fully (are they Dirk and Daphne's?) although the cheesy mid-Atlantic narrator keeps yelling: "Do it for the children!"

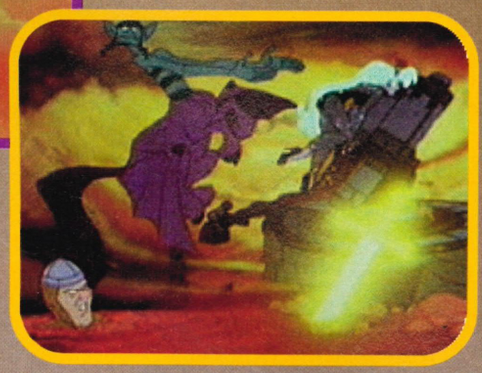
As with its predecessor, DL2 features Disney-quality animation and a top-notch soundtrack. Again like the first Dragon, progress through the game is loosely under the control of the player.

This means that far from being a fully interactive movie (if such a beast exists) DL2 has a limited number of sequences where the player can step into the action and take control. This usually involves shifting the joystick to steer Dirk the Daring out of danger or pressing the action button to make him hack and slash his sword. Doing the right thing at the right time will allow Dirk to progress and the player to see more of the movie. Do the wrong thing and Dirk will









Far left: watch out for the fearsome Helga who attacks you with a rolling pin. Middle: the kids are cute, but who exactly do they belong to? Left: poor old Princess Daphne is in trouble again. Will she never learn?

bite the bullet in a variety of colourful, if highly unfeasible, ways.

In between these interactive goodies, the action will carry on regardless of what the player does with the joystick. This "spectator factor" was one of the main criticisms of the original Dragon's Lair - especially as many of the interactive hot spots were separated by long stretches of linear footage.

The good news is that Don Bluth and his team have gone out of their way to take on board these criticisms in the sequel. From the beginning the player is dragged into the action, again seconds later, and so on. Slashing the gap between the interactive bits has made the whole game a more rapid fire, edge-of-the-seat experience.

You dare not blink for fear that you will miss a crucial hotspot and consign Dirk to oblivion.

Of course, the drawback with this approach is that it gives you less time to be a spectator and sit back and enjoy the lush visuals or take in the voices on the soundtrack. But, given the choice between being a spectator and being a participant, I'll take the latter any day of the week.



The other main brickbat hurled at the first Dragon's Lair is that it is too darned difficult - there was not so much a difficulty curve as a sheer vertical incline. Again, this has been sorted out but the result this time is not such a complete success. Basically, the game tells you what you should do next by putting a magical glow on the required manoeuvre. If Dirk needs to use his sword, for example, the weapon will glow brightly moments before it is needed; if Dirk needs to jump to the ledge on his left, the ledge will have a brief burst of St Elmo's fire.

This makes the game a whole lot easier and eliminates most of the tedious trial and error involved in the original game. Unfortunately, it also means that you are always on the lookout for the orange glow instead of at the actual on-screen situation. Indeed, you can quite soon become oblivious to the stunning visuals and plot twists and simply play the game like a "Simon Says" test of your reflexes. Perhaps an option to switch this feature on or off would have been a happy compromise between ease of use and longevity.



In the end, a verdict on Dragon's Lair 2 comes down to whether you enjoy this kind of limited interaction video game or "game video" as some magazines are starting to call them. I find them curiously addictive in a mindless way - although the occasional frustration attack can make you want to throw your CDi player at the nearest domestic pet in a bid to create some genuine interaction (only joking, animal lovers). Overall, DL2 is a fine example of the genre: the animation is exemplary, the pacing snappy and the interactive hot spots plentiful and varied.

Cost: TBA
Out: October



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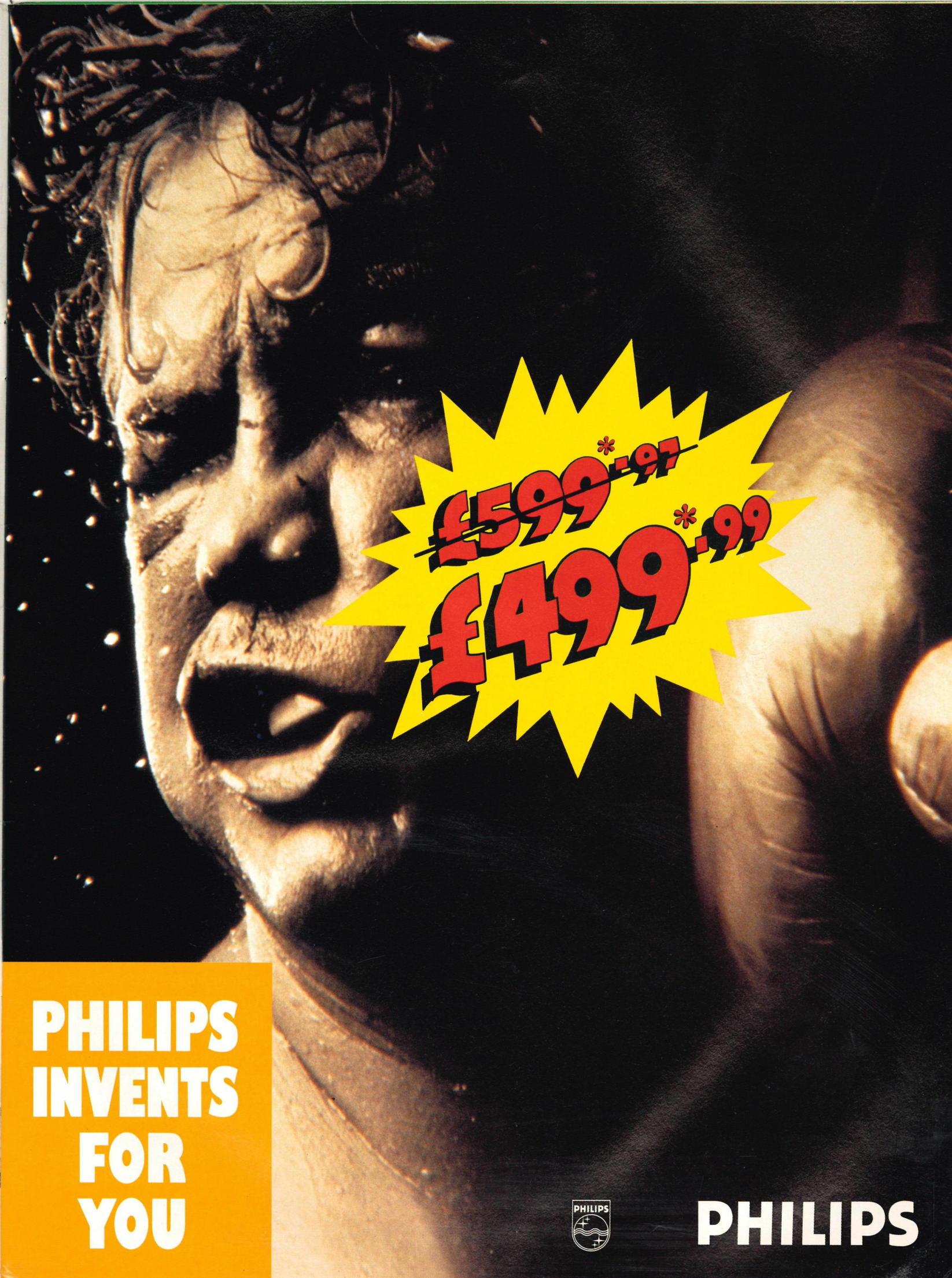
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Steve Keen goes in search of the mystic pizza as he dissects the finished version of Litil Divil from Gremlin Graphics. It proves to be a demonic trip

LITIL DIVIL

Goblins, ghouls, ghosts and gargoyles, we love 'em! And so do those guys at Gremlin, the software house behind this latest graphic adventure on CDi.

The Dublin-based company dragged its heels worse than an arthritic centipede when putting together this adventure on other formats, but it has rushed the CDi adaptation out in record time and guess what? I reckon it's the best version around!

Every year someone in Hell has to make the treacherous trip through the Labyrinth of Chaos to retrieve the Mystical Pizza of Plenty. This time it is a mischievous imp called Mutt who must take up the challenge. Our hero is not the kind of guy to run away from such an opportunity, not when he can sprint, and whinges on like a rheumatic sea lion at the prospect of going on such a dangerous quest.

And indeed he might, as this challenge is not an easy one.

The game's style is a mixture of puzzle solving and arcade action. Mutt has to map his way through the trap-infested corridors and beg, borrow and steal for the dozens of objects that will allow him to collect all the pieces of his master's snack.

Many booby traps await him, like spikes that jut out of the floor, flame throwing statues, giant spiders and cavernous pits, but if you can guide him past these safely, you will uncover the deadly rooms of peril at the heart of the maze.

These rooms are the secret of Mutt's success and contain a mixture of dastardly demons and ghastly monsters that hold the keys to the Litil Divil's progression. Some you will have to outwit with the many objects that you find or buy, while others will only respond to a sound thrashing with one of Mutt's many karate manoeuvres!

The CDi version of this game is the best around, and as you can see from the screenshots, the colours, backgrounds and graphics are fab.

Animation is the key to this game's appeal and each character you come across has more personality in its pixels than you'll find in a lift full of stand-up comics. Mutt gets down on his hands and knees and pummels the ground like a spoilt kid when he gets thwarted and the most unexpected treats await you inside every room.

However, for all the imaginative villains and puzzles you discover, the pace of the gameplay suffers considerably due to this attention to detail.

It takes a full 30 seconds for you to open a door and enter a puzzle room and, however great all the animation is, you're going to have to have the patience of Mother Teresa to want to sit through it time and time again watching the same clips.

Gremlin has gone a long way to iron out the control problems mentioned by Dominik Diamond in his preview (issue 4). They are a lot more responsive now, but still lag





RATINGS

Graphics: 86%

Sound: 79%

Interactivity: 81%

Overall: 84%

Cost: £39.99 Out: August

slightly behind your inputs.

Unfortunately, a few other more glaring game design faults have shown up since then. You can't turn around in a corridor, so if you are walking towards the screen, you can't see what's in front of you and end up falling down pits, being spiked and generally getting roughed up through no fault of your own. Also, traps come from out of nowhere and if you walk in the middle of the screen your sprite hides them coming. This wouldn't be so bad if each mistake wasn't accompanied by animation, so that you have to wait a full six seconds before you can get back into the game.

But don't give up just yet. Things do get better and the more you persevere with Litil Divil, the greater the rewards. Each level is massive and it is hard to pull yourself away from trying to discover what is around the next bend and what amazing creatures you are going to meet next.

Most of the guardians are highly original, ranging from a huge spider that spews out its young at you and can only be killed by fly spray, to a sumo wrestling fat boy demon who can be engaged in hand-to-hand combat to the death, or alternatively burst with a huge hat pin that you can buy in one of the dungeon shops.

This is one aspect of the game that keeps you coming back.

There's more than one way to skin a cat, and in Litil Divil there's usually more than one way to defeat a monster. This removes the rather linear aspect found in most games and makes the adventure much more approachable.

For my money, Litil Divil is the finest cartoon adventure around and has the magic ingredient so often lacking in fine looking games - interactivity. Apart from some glaring design faults, that frankly stood out in all the previous format versions, this could have been a monster.

Five levels, many moons and countless lives later you'll come to the end of this adventure, if you can stick it that long. It's good fun while the comedy graphics, excellent animation and fabulous effects grab you, but next time I'll be phoning out for pizza!

Produced by Gremlin Graphics.



The scrolling may drive you to distraction, writes Mat Toor, but the sheer quality of the gameplay and graphics makes Zelda's Adventure one of the games of the year



ZELDA'S ADVENTURE







Zelda's Adventure is probably the first genuine arcade adventure game to arrive on CDi. And I'm happy to say it has been worth the wait.

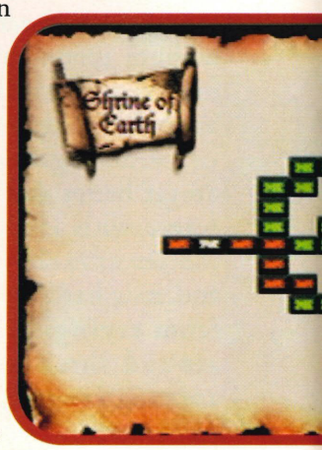
The disc opens with a splendid musical score and an atmospheric Digital Video sequence featuring the Court astrologer Disprin (well that is what it sounded like to me) pottering around in the top of his observation tower. Things, he tells us, are not looking good in the kingdom of Tolemac - the weather is lousy, the people are miserable and the mischievous teen-warrior Zelda has been kidnapped by Ganon, the local Lord of Darkness.



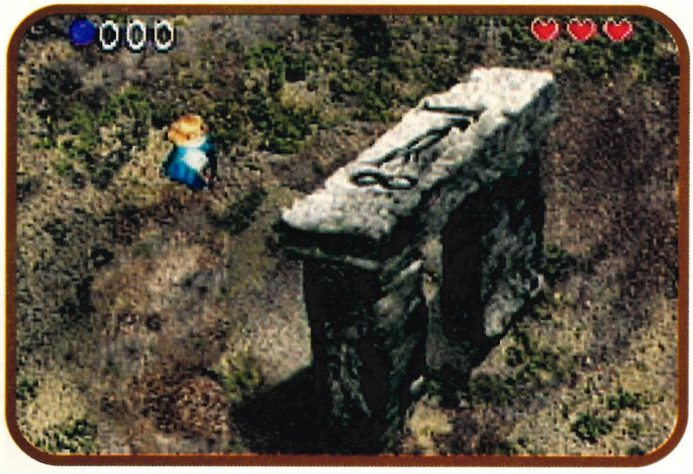
In the absence of a constabulary of any note, Disprin has recruited Princess Zelda to save the day. The pony-tailed princess must collect seven Celestial Signs to release Link and liberate Tolemac from Ganon's tyranny. Each Sign, needless to say, is tucked away in a shrine and is zealously guarded by Ganon's heavies.

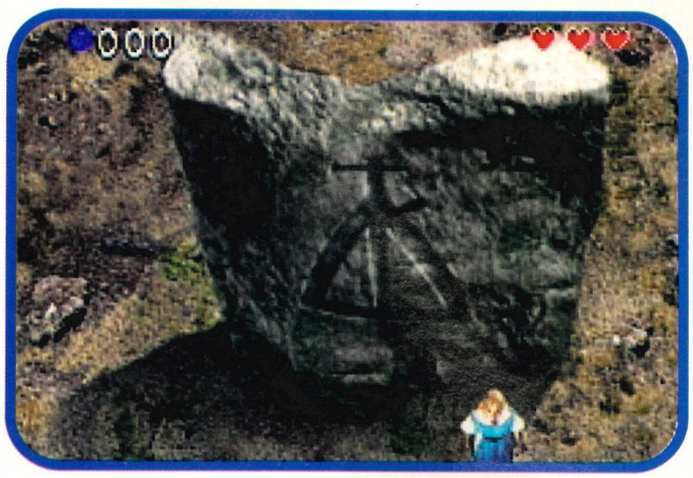
Events take place both on the surface (a Macbeth-style blasted heath complete with a chill wind blowing through the trees) and underground, where the various Shrines are carved out of the rock.

The action is viewed from above, with a vague doff of the cap towards 3D isometrics. There is no continuous scrolling as such - when Zelda reaches the edge of the screen, the game pauses for two or three seconds while the processor scrolls s-l-o-w-l-y to the next screen. A click of the second action button takes you to a typical RPG inventory screen where you can select treasures and weapons, view the map and save your current position within the game.



The gameplay itself involves wasting monsters with a variety of weapons (magic wand, Ninja knives and fireballs) and teasing out clues from the various non-player characters dotted around the landscape. All these







Above: in this version of Zelda, you get a top-down view of the action. Bottom, far left: save items needed in the inventory. Bottom, middle: maps help you on your way

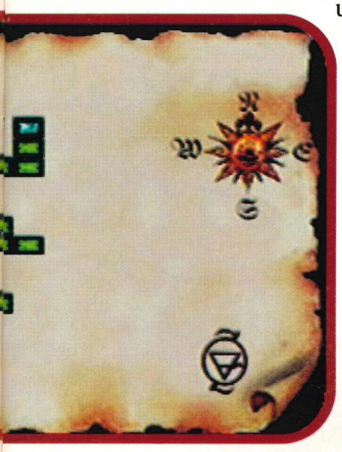
individuals (and there are more than 100 of them) talk to Zelda with real digitized speech.

Some are helpful, some are ignorant and others are downright malicious, but talk to them you must if you want to get anywhere in the game.

But what makes Zelda's Adventures stand out? Well, the graphics are certainly something special. The screen shots can't begin to convey the atmosphere that the photo-realistic backdrops invoke. And little details, such as the animated ripples on river surfaces, add immeasurably to the overall impact.

The sprites are a mixed bag - the main Zelda character is completely uninspiring - but there are so many of them (over 60 monsters alone) that you tend not to notice the odd duffer. And when the programmers do go that extra yard, such as with the massive end-of-level bosses, the results are gobsmackingly good.

Unlike some CD games I could mention, Zelda's Adventure does not suffer from the "great graphics, shame about the game" syndrome. The gameplay is involving and the difficulty curve finely graded. It starts off fairly easy and gradually gets tougher, but by then, of course, you have more weapons and treasures to help you through. And as I mentioned in the preview of this game in issue 5, the collision detection routines are spot on.



Full marks to Viridis, too, for its on-screen "how to play" section. While it is a far cry from the long-awaited "interactive manual", it does walk through the game in a simple and informative way that helps you get started without giving too much away. Other CDi developers please take note.

But before the development team gets too swollen-headed, it pains me to say that the biggest weakness with Zelda - and one that was identified in the preview - has not been changed in the finished version. The screen-to-screen scrolling is, in a word, diabolical. It slows the game right down, makes exploration more tiresome than fun and can cause even those with Job-like patience to swear loudly at the screen - especially when you are retracing your footsteps.

But as the Guinness ads tell us, you need a little bit of the rough to appreciate the smooth. So although the snail-like scrolling is a pain in the neck, the sheer quality of the other 95 per cent of the game more than makes up for it. This is the game of the year for all you CDi-owning RPG buffs out there. And even if you're not of the swords and sorcery persuasion, try to give Zelda's Adventure a go. You may find yourself quickly converted to the cause.

Produced by: Viridis

RATINGS

Graphics:	89%
Sound:	85%
Interactivity:	90%
Overall:	90%

Cost: TBA

Out: October

MEGAMAZE

Let's hope the rest of the summer is wet, because this new puzzle game is so addictive you'll never want to go out!

As the name suggests, this is a puzzle game where you, the player, are presented with a series of increasingly difficult mazes which you have to get through.

The early levels are quite easy, but they become progressively difficult. All you have to do is get the blue coloured ball into the end-hole of the maze. Sounds easy, doesn't it?

In fact, there are a number of other balls in the maze (coloured black). If you hit any of these, you are blown up and have to start again.

You can, however, obliterate the black balls by making them crash into each other so that they explode.

As the difficulty level increases, more obstacles are put in your way. There are holes to cross and doors to open before you finally make it to the end of the last maze.



This is a very addictive game. After only a few minutes, this reviewer was completely hooked and couldn't stop playing. Sometimes it can be very frustrating, but that is half the challenge. Just to add some spice, you are timed on every level. Once you get through to the next level, you are given an access code so that if you stop, you can go straight back to the level where you left off.

Produced by PolyMedia Communications.

RATINGS

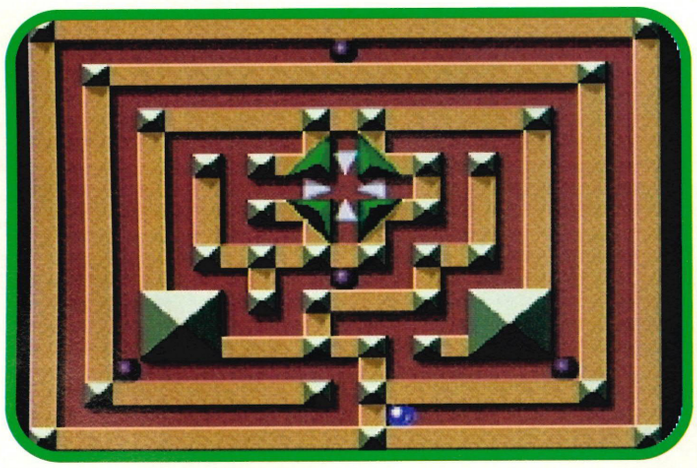
Graphics: 80%

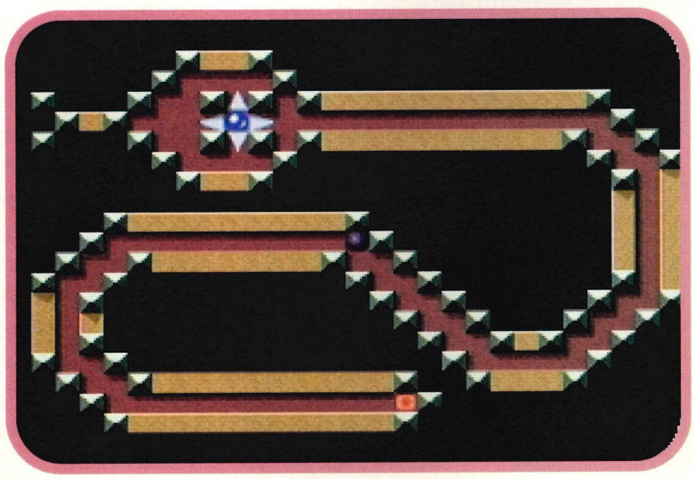
Sound: 75%

Interactivity: 87%

Overall: 82%

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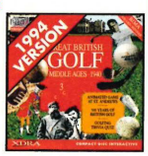


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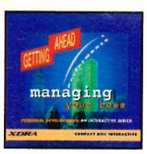


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DiscMAN

PMI is the first major record company to adopt Video CD. ANDY CLOUGH talks to managing director MARTIN HAXBY

AC: Why have you decided to adopt the Video CD format?

MH: I see great potential in it - it's the first true cross-platform Digital Video format which is capable of being played worldwide through all television systems. Video CD developers and publishers will be able to release titles on this format in the confidence that there will be a wide range of machines capable of playing their discs - thus removing the inevitable worry of betting on the wrong format.

AC: Did you look at other multimedia formats?

MH: Not as far as having the ability to get linear video on CD was concerned. Video CD is the ideal format - putting linear video on any other platform is both unnecessarily expensive and a waste of the potential of those systems. All we are trying to do here is to give the user more fun and expand the choices in the way that the programme can be watched.

AC: How did you choose which titles to release first on Video CD?

MH: I wanted to launch the format with a bang. So I decided to give the consumer added value and products which I knew had already been very successful on VHS.

AC: When will you release the next batch of Video CD titles, and how many will there be?

MH: The next five releases will be released around October, making it ten in all for this year.

AC: What are the next five titles?

MH: We are looking at the Pet Shop Boys: Videography or possibly the Very video, Iron Maiden: From There To Eternity, Diana Ross: the Ultimate Video Collection and Nigel Kennedy's Vivaldi Four Seasons. Several other artists are under consideration, including Cliff Richard, Duran Duran, Queen and Tina Turner.

AC: Do you have any plans to develop interactive music titles?

MH: Interactive titles are a completely different concept, financially and in terms of markets and consumers. We have plans involving several of our EMI "family" of artists here and in the US. These titles will be released over the next 18 months, but it is a little premature to announce them as we are in the planning/demo stage with most of them. Some of them will be published on CD-ROM.

AC: How significant is the development of Video CD for the music industry?

MH: It is of great importance for two reasons. Firstly, it is creating a great deal of renewed excitement and awareness of music and music videos in general. It is sexier and more fun than VHS, with better sound quality. Secondly, the digital compression techniques used to create our Video CD masters can also be used for electronic delivery of the same product. Although this is something for the medium term, electronic distribution has a very important part to play, whether through video-on-demand, cable or wireless systems.

AC: How would you like to see the Video CD format develop?

MH: The existing Video CD (White Book) standard does not allow the audio tracks on the disc to be played on a normal CD player. I would like to see a combination of Red Book (the world standard for audio CD) and White Book (for video) on one CD. This would give owners of audio CD players the ability to play their Video CD in the normal way through their hi-fi system, but would give owners of Video CD capable machines the ability to play audio and video. Currently, this can only be done using the CDi-only Green Book standard and, to be quite honest, the number of CDi players sold is insufficient at the moment for us to use it.

AC: Other record companies such as BMG have had a lot of problems with rights over their titles while trying to format them onto Video CD. Is this something you have come up against?

MH: I can't speak for BMG, but the question of rights is always a delicate one when contractual provisions are anything other than black and white. I think the most positive attitude to adopt is "here's a new concept which can benefit everyone, so let's do it together and be at the forefront, rather than adopt a wait and see attitude".

AC: Have there been any technical problems with encoding the discs?

MH: Quite a few, but that is to be expected when you are creating something new or following an unfamiliar process. The chief problem was the so-called digital blocking which created small blocks on screen whenever there was fast movement, flashes of light or when the video editing was particularly fast. Also, it was sometimes difficult to separate the individual video tracks as they had originally been edited to blend into each other.

AC: How did you overcome these particular difficulties?

MH: We have used better software programmes and a lot of skill and patience! OmniMedia, the software house that introduced me to the Video CD concept last year, has done a splendid job and has found ways around just about every problem we encountered. We worked very closely with them to develop a new CDi engine which



would give the user all the functionality of a good audio CD and all the visual impact of VHS. The Philips CDi engine is very good, but had not been specifically developed for music video playback. Our version is better suited to this.

AC: Will you continue to release material on Video CD after this year?

MH: We will release 10 discs next year, or 20 if the market goes well. Initially, we will concentrate on artists who have already proved themselves.

"Video CD is the first true cross-platform format which can be played worldwide through all television sets."

AC: The new titles are quite a lot more expensive than audio CDs. Don't you think the prices are too high?

MH: No, we are pricing a premium product at a premium price. Psychologically, it is important that most are under the £20 barrier. And in the case of Queen (which costs £24.99) it is cheaper than the double CD audio set. If we release single disc Video CDs, they will be slightly cheaper, between £15.99 and £17.99. We don't have to use two discs for every title we release.

AC: Are you worried that there are too few players out there which are capable of playing Video CD?

MH: There are a limited number of platforms at the moment, but this autumn we will see the launch of dedicated Video CD players.

AC: Do you think we are moving to a situation where Video CD will eventually take over from audio CD?

MH: Yes, eventually there will be one carrier, CD, for audio and video. I have great faith in the five inch optical disc. Consumers already love it and have taken it to heart.

Picture Music International, the music video division of EMI Records, has released its first five Video CD titles, leading the way in introducing music videos on CD





TINA TURNER: SIMPLY THE BEST

Simply The Best is the complete Tina Turner video collection. It contains 21 tracks, spanning Tina Turner's lengthy and outstandingly successful career.

This collection of hits includes Tina's first Top Ten as a solo artist, Let's Stay Together, along with Better Be Good To Me, We Don't Need Another Hero, Private Dancer and Addicted To Love.

In addition, there are duets with David Bowie on Tonight and Rod Stewart on It Takes Two.

Additional tracks on the Video CD version include I Don't Wanna Fight, Why Must We Wait Until Tonight and Simply The Best.

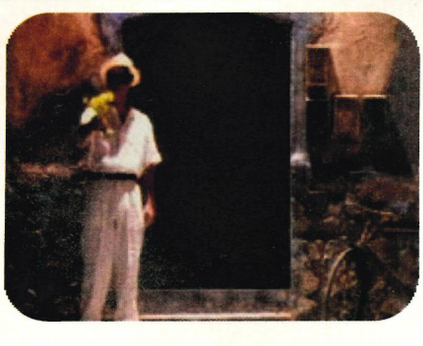
Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Cost: £19.99
Available: Now



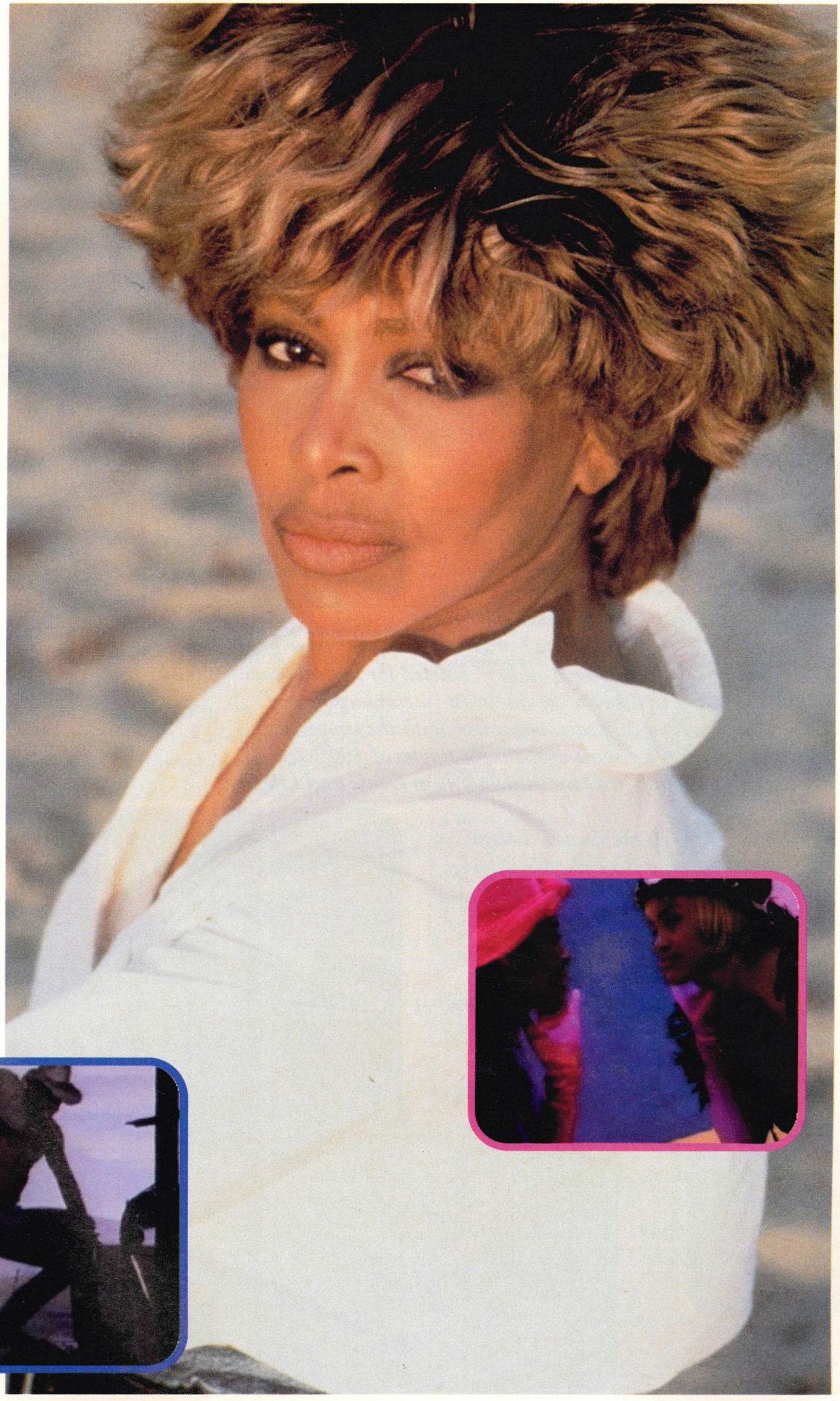












DISC 1
Simply The Best

Better Be Good To Me

I Can't Stand The Rain

What's Love Got To Do With It

Typical Male

Private Dancer

We Don't Need Another hero

What You Get Is What You See

I Don't Wanna Lose You

Look Me In The Heart

Addicted To Love

Steamy Windows

Break Every Rule

DISC 2
Foreign Affair

Tonight

Let's Stay Together

Be Tender With Me Baby

It Takes Two

Nutbush City Limits

Love Thing

What's Love Got To Do With It

I Don't Wanna Fight

Why Must We Wait Until Tonight

Simply The Best

DISC 1
Space Oddity

John I'm Only Dancing

The Jean Genie

Life On Mars

Be My Wife

Heroes

Boys Keep Swinging

Look Back In Anger

DJ

Ashes To Ashes

Fashion

Wild Is The Wind

Let's Dance

China Girl

Modern Love

Blue Jean

DISC 2
Loving The Alien

Dancing In The Street

Absolute Beginners

Underground

As The World Falls Down

(never released)

Day In Day Out

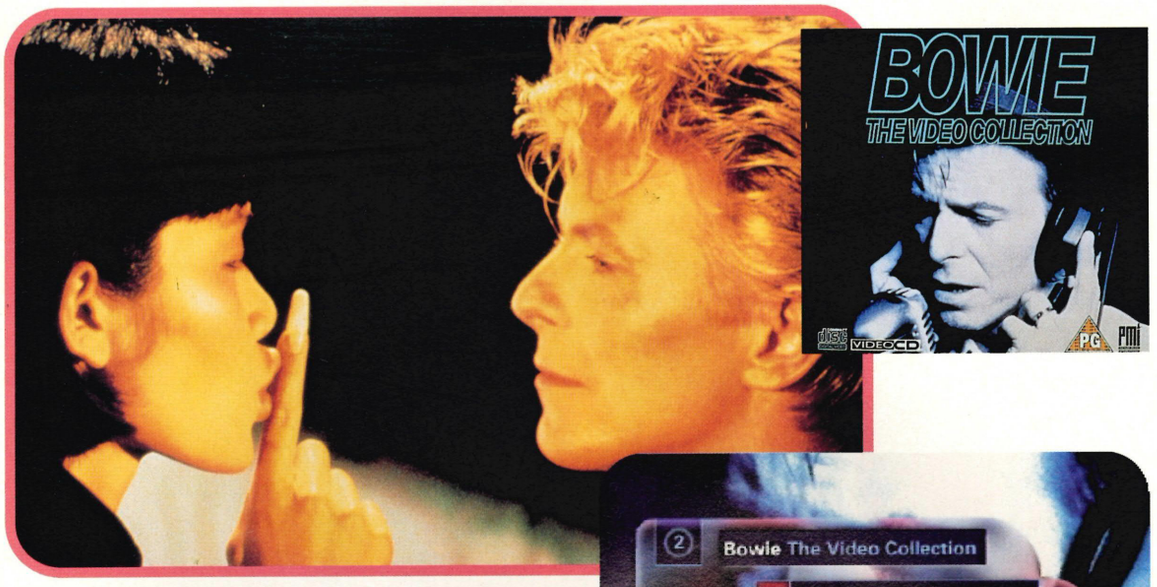
Time Will Crawl

Never Let Me Down

(never released)

Fame '90

Discography





DAVID BOWIE

The David Bowie Video Collection features 25 videos, 23 singles, one album track and one previously unreleased track.

Many of Bowie's early promos have rarely been seen on television and have never been available on CD before. Of the few later videos that have been previously released, they have all been deleted for several years. Bowie the Video Collection chronicles the metamorphosis of David Bowie across 20 years, beginning with the simply shot promotional films for some of the early singles of 1969-73: Space Oddity, John I'm Only Dancing, Jean Genie and Life On Mars.

Moving on through the decade, videos include the striking Boys Keep Swinging and Look Back In Anger from 1979, and the memorable promos for the hits of the 1980s; Ashes To Ashes, Fashion, Let's Dance, China Girl and Blue Jean.



Among the other tracks are Bowie and Mick Jagger's version of Dancing In The Street, released for Live Aid in 1985, Modern Love, filmed on 1983's Serious Moonlight tour, and the title track from the film Absolute Beginners. Bowie is one of the pioneers in bringing music videos to CD.





Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Cost: £19.99
Available: Now

QUEEN: GREATEST FLIX I & II



This is the ultimate Queen collection: 34 tracks spanning the supergroup's entire career. Queen has a long-standing reputation for producing outstanding promotional videos and has used every technique in the field.

Since the groundbreaking video Bohemian Rhapsody, which virtually began the music video revolution, the band has incorporated animation in A Kind of Magic and Innuendo, comedy in I Want To Break Free and I'm Going Slightly Mad, surreal costumes in It's A Hard Life and computer graphics in The Invisible Man.

Greatest Flix I covers the hits of 1974 to 1980 and includes Killer Queen, Bohemian Rhapsody, Somebody To Love and We Are the Champions. There are nine Top Ten hits in all.

Greatest Flix II spans ten years from the 1981 number one hit Under Pressure (with David Bowie) to the four singles released in 1991: Innuendo, I'm Going Slightly Mad, Headlong and The Show Must Go On.

This two disc set contains 33 tracks giving 137 minutes of running time. There is also a 16 page colour booklet, which accounts for the higher price.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆☆
Cost: £24.99
Available: Now

BEST BUY



DISC 1
Killer Queen

Bohemian Rhapsody

You're My Best Friend

Somebody To Love/Tie Your Mother Down

We Are The Champions/We Will Rock You

Spread Your Wings

Bicycle Race

Fat Bottomed Girls

Don't Stop Me Now

Love Of My Life

Crazy Little Thing Called Love

Save Me

Play The Game

Another One Bites The Dust

It's A Kind Of Magic

Under Pressure

Flash

DISC 2
Radio Ga Ga

I Want It All

I Want to Break Free

Innuendo

It's A Hard Life

Breakthru

Who Wants To Live Forever

Headlong

The Miracle

I'm Going Slightly Mad

The Invisible Man

Hammer To Fall

Friends Will Be Friends

The Show Must Go On

One Vision









JukeBOX

DISC 1

Shine On You Crazy Diamond

Signs Of Life

Learning To Fly

Sorrow

The Dogs Of War

On The Turning Away

One Of These Days

Time On The Run

The Great Gig In The Sky

Wish You Were Here

DISC 2

Us And Them

Comfortably Numb

One Slip

Run Like Hell

Shine On (reprise during credits)

Discography



RATINGS:
☆=poor
☆☆=average
☆☆☆=good
☆☆☆☆=very good
☆☆☆☆☆=excellent

The music titles in this section require a Digital Video cartridge and are published by PMI, unless otherwise stated.



PINK FLOYD: DELICATE SOUND OF THUNDER

This is one of the greatest concerts ever filmed, with a spectacular light and laser show recorded in Versailles, France and at New York's Nassau Coliseum.

The film crew used 27 35mm cameras and recorded digitally on 48 tracks to make this outstanding video.



Rumour has it that the Russians were so keen to have this tour in Moscow that they loaned the band the largest aeroplane in the world from their Ilyshin fleet to ferry the 150 tons of equipment, and it still had to make two journeys!

The concert was one of the largest productions to go on the road. It featured Pink Floyd's trademark lasers, computerised lighting systems, a flying pig, bed and aeroplanes, fireworks, smoke effects and digital sound.

There are 11 musicians on stage - Dave Gilmour, Nick Mason and Rick Wright of Floyd, five supporting musicians, three back-up singers and the Floyd Droids - three lighting pods developed especially for the show which look eerily like demented robots from outer space.



If that little lot doesn't blow your mind, nothing will.



Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Cost: £19.99
Available: Now

KATE BUSH: THE WHOLE STORY



Kate Bush has been back in the news of late with the release of The Red Shoes album, and for fans this Video CD will be a real treat. It depicts the remarkable recording career of this inimitable artist and contains all of Kate's greatest hit singles, from her unforgettable debut Wuthering Heights through to Experiment IV.



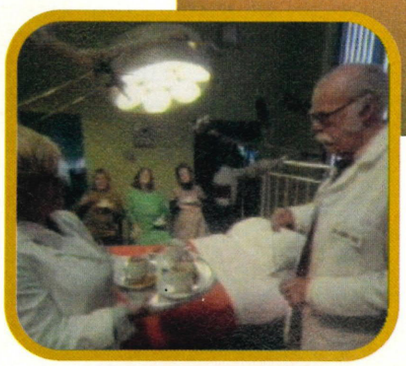
There are six extra tracks on the disc, including The Sensual World, Love And Anger, This Woman's Work, Rubberband Girl and Moments Of Pleasure. Several of the videos are directed and choreographed by Kate herself and each clip tells a story.

Rating: ☆☆☆
Cost: £19.99
Available: Now









DISC 1
Wuthering Heights
Cloudbusting
Man With The Child In His Eyes
Breathing
Wow
Hounds Of Love
Running Up That Hill
Army Dreamers
Sat In Your Lap
Experiment IV
DISC 2
The Dreaming
Babooshka
The Big Sky
The Sensual World
Love And Anger
This Woman's Work
Rubberband Girl
Moments Of Pleasure
Discography

IRON MAIDEN

The Iron Maiden title From There To Eternity, originally scheduled for release in July, has been postponed pending delivery of a new software application that will improve the quality of the original videos. We will keep you posted on further developments.

JUMP TO THE *interactive* BEAT

David Bowie and Prince are the latest superstars to join the multimedia revolution. Isobel Pring investigates

At last, the music industry is waking up to the possibilities offered by the new wave of multimedia systems. The coming months will see the release of a host of interactive music CD-ROMS. David Bowie and Prince have just released their first multimedia work for the PC and Macintosh, and titles from Bob Marley, Brian Eno, The Shamen, Depeche Mode, Erasure and U2 are all in the pipeline.

This new breed of music entertainment features artist information and interviews, videos, interactive art and music tracks as well as audio mixing and video editing. Its advent has led to speculation that interactive CD formats - CDi, Video CD and CD-ROM - could eventually take over from traditional audio CDs.

David Bowie's Jump CD-ROM, based on "Jump They Say" from the Black Tie White Noise album, includes four videos from the album, video interviews, narration from Bowie and an edit suite where users can create their own Jump They Say video from the original eight-track master recording.

Despite developing an interest in multimedia, Bowie does not believe it will take over from audio CDs. "It's quite expensive to create a CD-ROM product, so for the foreseeable future I think audio CDs will remain," he says. However, he does view it as an artistic challenge. "By virtue of the fact that it is interactive, it doesn't have the same goals as music for a record. The fact that the user controls the experience means a change in the way we conceive, create and present this work.

"Most of the present CD-ROMs were created without the artist having the ability to change or adapt the material to the medium. Today we are just beginning to define what is expected. At this stage, we don't really know what the ultimate interactive experience will be. That means the field is wide open and there is a tremendous amount of creative freedom."

Charlie Cosh, manager of The Shamen, who are working on an interactive CDi title (see issue 7), believes Peter Gabriel's Xplora 1 CD-ROM has set the tone. With artists such as Bowie and Prince releasing titles, Cosh thinks bands that do not have the resources to generate new material will not be able to compete.

Meanwhile, the record companies are gearing up for the launch of Video CD, which offers users the opportunity to watch a band's videos as well as listen to the music and perhaps call up a discography of the artist or the lyrics to the music. The first five titles from PMI have just been released (see reviews pages 26-31).

"There is a danger in the point and click interface," says David Pullen, head of multimedia at Bertelsmann Music Group (BMG), which is preparing a number of Video CD titles, including Eurythmics Greatest Hits. BMG is also preparing four CD-ROM titles: Virtual Graceland, Head Candy from Brian Eno, an interactive adventure built around the band Snap, and a set of interactive music compilations from the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s and 1980s.

"Our long-term interest is in regaining a generation of consumers that has been lost to video games. Because of that, their expectations have been altered. They want things to be fast with lots going on - you only have to look at raves to see that. The challenge is to create a product for teenagers that will grab them in the same way that games do."

Pullen is also keen to see more progress in the console sector. "The audience for products such as Xplora 1 and Jump is older and it is a market we already have in music terms, so it cannot generate incremental music sales. Regaining the younger market could."

However, Pullen has hit a snag which is bedevilling many in the music industry. "We have finished a Video CD master for the Eurythmics Greatest Hits, but we are having rights problems with other titles. We will only release Video CDs when we have three or four titles ready for sale."

Even artists who do have the material or the means to produce a multimedia CD-ROM do not find it easy. The rights issues involved are complex.

One of the problems is that record companies often use contractual clauses to cover recording of new formats such as the Digital Compact Cassette (DCC) which could now be used to cover CDi, CD-ROM and Video CD, leaving the power to produce an interactive title with the record company.

While Bowie did not face rights issues with Jump, he recognises that they are a problem: "Rights will pose a lot of problems in the future and I can see it becoming a real hell. Agencies are already trying to collect royalties on the Internet computer network, which could close lots of doors on the potential of such systems."

Mark Phillips, a partner at solicitors Harbottle and Lewis, foresees other difficulties. "At present, most contracts between artists and record companies primarily cover recording, leaving the artist free to do what they like in certain other media such as television, where it is essentially a performance rather than a recording that is involved.

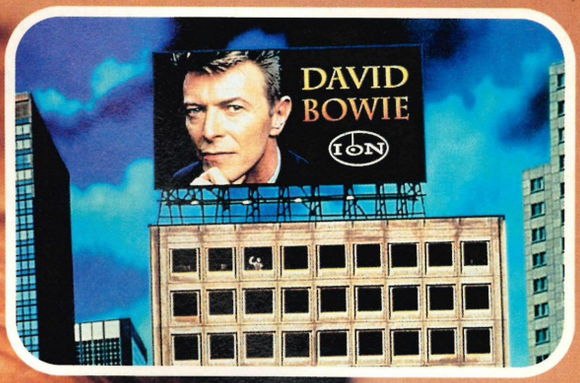
"The advent of technologies such as interactive cable television and multimedia online services could have a huge impact because they are not properly covered by existing recording contracts. The reaction of the record companies to this is that they are attempting to widen the scope of their contracts with artists."

Bowie, Prince and Gabriel are the pioneers in the brave new world of multimedia. If the legal problems can be overcome, and the costs come down, more bands should be able to jump on the bandwagon.

Please note: Jump by David Bowie is only available on CD-ROM and will not play on a CDi machine.

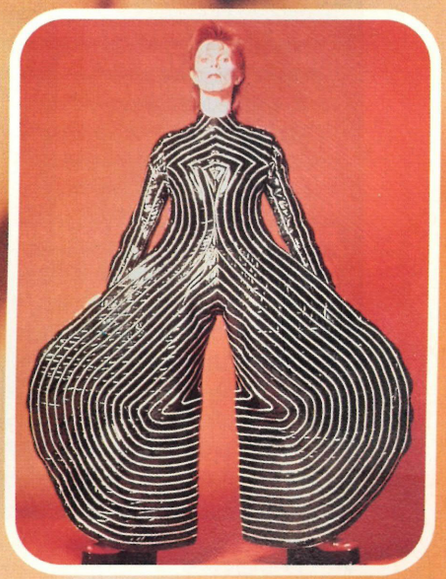
Matthew Rolston

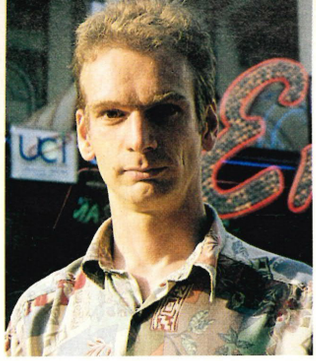
"Rights will pose a lot of problems in the future and I can see it becoming a real hell."





Top: images taken from Bowie's new interactive CD-ROM title, Jump. Below: screen shot from the Bowie Video CD





Philips has switched to the Video CD standard for the latest batch of films from Paramount and MGM/UA. BEN SOUTHWELL takes the critic's chair

A FISH CALLED WANDA

A Fish Called Wanda is a near perfect blend of English and American comedy that was a huge hit on both sides of the Atlantic. This superbly plotted film stars John Cleese, Jamie Lee Curtis, Kevin Kline and Michael Palin and is already well on the way to becoming a classic. And like all the best films, it just keeps getting better.

Curtis plays Wanda of the title. She and Kline are part of a gang of bank robbers, ruthless to a man (and woman). So ruthless, in fact, that they are all out to double-cross each other and make off with the money themselves. John Cleese is a typically English barrister - all repressed emotions and upper middle class trappings. When Wanda "wanders" into his world he falls head over heels in love, lust and anything else you can think of. The rest, as they say, is pure comedy as Wanda leads him a merry dance through a plot that is as complex and brilliant as the best of Fawlty Towers.

It may be a cliche, but there really is something for everyone in this film. From Kline desperately spouting any Italian he can think of to seduce Wanda to Michael Palin on excellent form as ever.

A Fish Called Wanda has an assured, timeless style. This is thanks partly to the stroke of genius that persuaded Charles Crichton, director of some of the most famous British comedies ever made (including the Ealing classic The Lavender Hill Mob), to take the helm of a feature film once more. His inventiveness and sense of timing are as fresh and perfect as ever. It is quite simply a film to enjoy time after time.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆☆ *Available: August*



Classic comedy: Michael Palin and John Cleese are led a merry dance

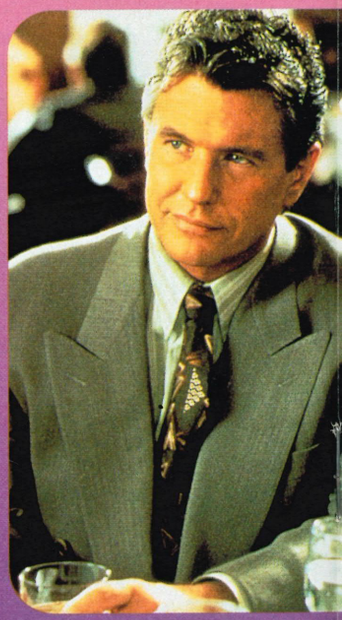


THE KRAYS

Every few years a British thriller comes along that is stylish, well made and very entertaining. The Krays, a biopic of the lives of the notorious Kray twins who ruled London's gangland in the 1950s, is one of them. Director Peter Medak scored a notable hit with the casting of brothers Gary and Martin Kemp from pop group Spandau Ballet. While the writer of "True" may not seem like the obvious choice to play one of the most ruthless gangsters this country has ever known, both Gary and Martin are excellent. They bring an extra dimension to the film with their true brotherly affection, giving their scenes together great power. Billie Whitelaw (excellent as ever) adds to the emotional pull of the film with her performance as their overbearing mother.

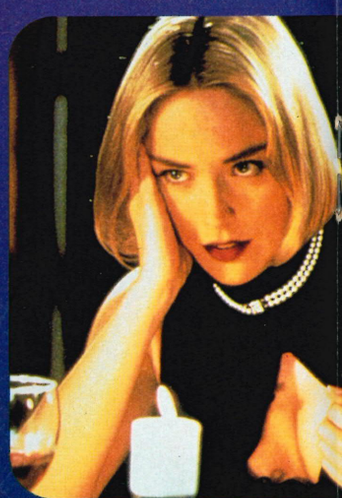
The Krays is certainly a tough film, with the violence very real and never glorified. It's a stylish piece of cinema that fits comfortably alongside other British successes in this genre, such as The Long Good Friday and Mona Lisa.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆☆ **Available: Now**





Who dunnit? Tom Berenger (above left) and Willliam Baldwin (above right) vie for Sharon Stone's affections... but which one is the killer?







SLIVER

It must have seemed like a licence to print money: Sharon Stone and writer Joe Eszterhas, both "oh so hot" after Basic Instinct, reunited in a new erotic thriller about voyeurism. It's the stuff that studio executives' dreams are made of.

Add in Director Philip Noyce, fresh from the success of Patriot Games, and a bestselling novel and Paramount must have heard the tills ringing before it even signed the contract.



Production was accompanied by a frenzy of hype. This would be one of the most daring films ever made by a major studio. Sliver would make Basic Instinct look like Bambi. Sliver would... well you get the picture.

But problems set in as filming started. The two stars were reported as having "differences" (they didn't get on), the final cut was in danger of getting an NC-17 certificate (the kiss of death at the box office) and the previews were terrible. Several re-shoots, re-writes and new endings later, Sliver was released to a less than enthusiastic response.

Somewhere along the line all the danger and excitement had evaporated, leaving Sliver as a tame and, dare I say it, rather dull film. "You like to watch don't you" crooned the poster. Well, actually no.

Stone (who does what she can with a fairly thankless part) is Carly Norris, a book editor who moves into a new apartment in a beautiful Manhattan skyscraper (the "sliver" of the title). There she meets the mysterious Zeke (William Baldwin) and disillusioned novellist Jack (Tom Berenger). Romance of some sort or other is obviously on the cards.

But everything is not what it seems. Carly discovers that she looks suspiciously (even dangerously) like the previous occupant of her apartment. A woman who, it turns out, was murdered.



Add in a skyscraper wired not just for sound, but also vision, and all the elements of a great story are there. The trouble is that instead of exploring all the interesting avenues that voyeurism offers, the script concentrates instead on what is fast becoming Eszterhas' favourite story device: is the romantic lead really a killer? Zeke and Jack are both set up as possible villains. Which of them was it?

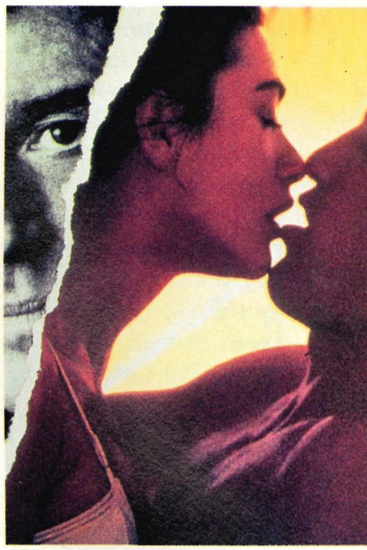
This may have worked brilliantly in Jagged Edge, and it was compelling enough in Basic Instinct, but it's starting to wear thin and Sliver just doesn't need it. It turns an intriguing and potentially disturbing story into little more than Agatha Christie with sex. Tame sex at best, laughable at worst.

Rating: ☆☆ Available: August

INDECENT PROPOSAL

This is Hollywood entertainment in the slickest sense of the word. Pace, style and enough gloss to hide the fact that the plot doesn't so much leak as haemorrhage.

Demi Moore (known as Gimme More in some Hollywood circles) and Woody Harrelson (Woody from Cheers) are happily married. We know that because we see them making love on the kitchen floor. Nothing can separate them. Before you can say "plot twist", however, they find themselves penniless (or should that be centless?) in Las Vegas. Enter Robert Redford. A very rich man. I mean we're talking private yacht, the works. He offers $1m in exchange for a night with Demi Moore.



Love triangle: Demi Moore and Woody Harrelson's marriage goes down the tubes fast with Robert Redford's $1m dollar offer

Now this film raises various questions for me, but the one I keep coming up against is this. "Why does he have to offer the money?" This is ROBERT REDFORD, arguably one of the most attractive screen stars EVER. There are people QUEUING UP to sleep with him. FOR NOTHING! If he didn't, I suppose there'd be no plot. So, after a certain amount of soul searching, they agree and of course things immediately go from bad to worse between Demi and Woody. What follows is a tangled triangle of love, mistrust, and rejection which will keep you hooked to the end even if you don't believe a word of it.It's not so much that this is a bad film, it's very polished and makes all the right noises. It's just that there's a pretty good film in here trying to get out. Watch it for Redford (superb of course), and the sort of gloss only Hollywood knows how to apply.



Rating: ☆☆☆
Available: Now

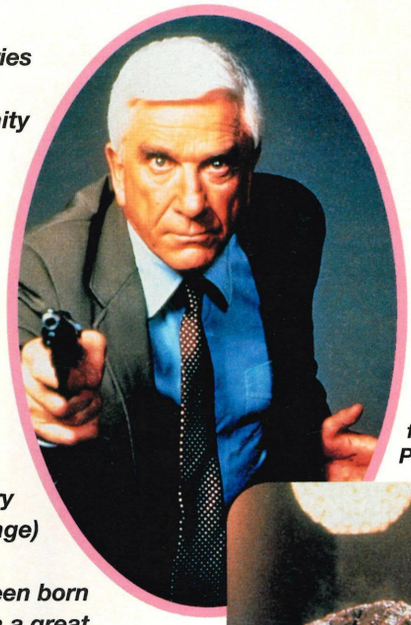
THE NAKED GUN

With the only average third film in the series doing the rounds of our cinemas at the moment , it's good to have an opportunity to see just how funny the first in the series really is. This may be heresy, but I didn't think Police Squad (on which the films are based) was very funny. The jokes didn't have time to develop and too much time was spent on irrelevant plots. It took the expanse (and expense) of the cinema for Frank Drebin to strike it big. Thank goodness someone gave him the chance, because in this outing at least, the jokes come faster than you can handle, which is no more than you'd expect from the team that brought you Airplane. It's the sort of film that you have to see more than once if you're to get every gag. It's even worth watching the credits (for a change) for the extra jokes they've poured in.

Leslie Nielsen is perfect as Drebin: he could have been born to play the part. Priscilla Presley is a revelation, with a great sense of comic timing. The plot is almost entirely immaterial involving a plan to kill the Queen and providing just enough story to keep the whole thing moving along.

The highpoint (and seemingly everyone's favourite bit) is the best beaver joke I've ever seen.

Comedies of this quality are few and far between. It's certainly one for your CDi collection.



Double act: perfect playing from Leslie Nielsen (left) and great comic timing from Pricilla Presley (below)



RATINGS:
☆=poor
☆☆=average
☆☆☆=good
☆☆☆☆=very good
☆☆☆☆=excellent

All Video CD films cost £17.99 unless otherwise stated. The films featured are from Paramount Pictures, MGM/UA and PolyGram Video

Rating: ☆☆☆☆ *Available: August*

THE CRYING GAME

Six Oscar nominations for an art house film? Is this some sort of a record? The Crying Game is one of those very rare films that "crossed over" from art house to mainstream and became a huge hit in America. It even received the ultimate compliment, a spoof in Naked Gun 33 1/3 (alongside such monster hits as Jurassic Park no less!).

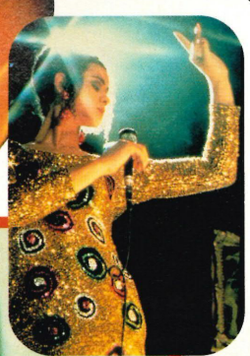
Billed as a dark British thriller about Ireland, The Crying Game is actually a much more complicated film.

Forest Whitaker plays a squaddie held hostage by the IRA. Stephen Rea and Miranda Richardson are his captors. As they await the outcome of negotiations Rea and Whitaker get to know each other. When Whitaker dies Rea takes it upon himself to find Whitaker's lover, Jaye Davidson. What follows is a complex and tangled story of sexuality, loyalty and politics.While it's good to see Neil Jordan (who made the excellent Angel, Mona Lisa and Company of Wolves) back on familiar territory, The Crying Game missed the mark for me. It may have a great deal to say about its subject, but Forest Whitaker was badly miscast and the rest of the film was surprisingly uninvolving.

However, one thing The Crying Game does have is THE MOST AMAZING PLOT TWIST I HAVE EVER SEEN! If you don't know what it is don't let anyone tell you - I'm certainly not going to give the game away.

If you feel left out not knowing what it is, then get the disc, it's a real eye opener!







Dark thriller: Jaye Davidson and Stephen Rea (above) and Miranda Richardson (right) are drawn into a complex game of sex and politics

Rating: ☆☆☆ Available: Now

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FAMILY PLANNING

JOHN HAWKINS, president of Philips Media Distribution, outlines to ANDY CLOUGH his plans for a new family of CDi players



AC:Can you explain the strategy behind Philips' decision to launch the CDi 450?

JH:The main reason for the 450 is to bring a product into market at the "magical price point" of $299 in the USA. This is a very significant step. It is not a sudden decision - we planned this over a year ago. We began shipping 450 players to America as soon as the announcement was made in June. The next model, the 550 - essentially a 450 with Digital Video cartridge included - will be launched at $499 in the USA this September, bundled with a games controller.

AC: When will the 450 be available in the UK and how much will it cost?

JH:The 450 will be available in the UK from the beginning of September at £299. In addition, a new Digital Video cartridge will be available, as well as various packages including player, software and hardware.

AC: Will you continue to sell the 210 alongside the 450?

JH: Yes. They are aimed at two distinct markets. I think consumers want a low-cost entry model CDi player, which is smaller and more portable, and a more traditional audio product. The next phase is to treat CDi as an additional function within other product ranges. So we will unveil a TV/CDi combination unit later this year and next year you will see CDi incorporated into stacked hi-fi systems. I expect other audio manufacturers to follow that example.

"The 450 and 210 are aimed at two distinct markets. Some consumers want a low-cost entry model."

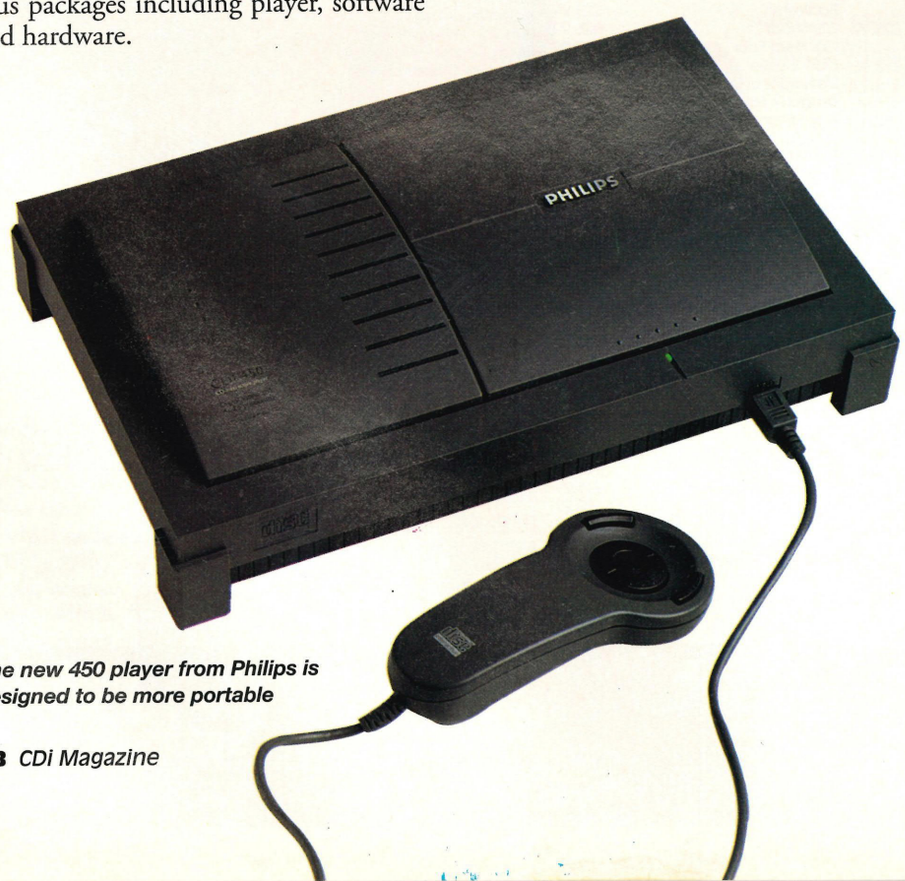
AC: I understand you are planning to introduce a plug-in MPEG board for the personal computer market. When will you do so?

JH: We are developing our own PC board, which we will licence to some other companies, for launch in the first quarter of 1995. But you will see other manufacturers introduce their own MPEG boards later this year. This will allow us to introduce CDi software to the PC market, which is much simpler to use than CD-ROM. You just have to plug in and play.

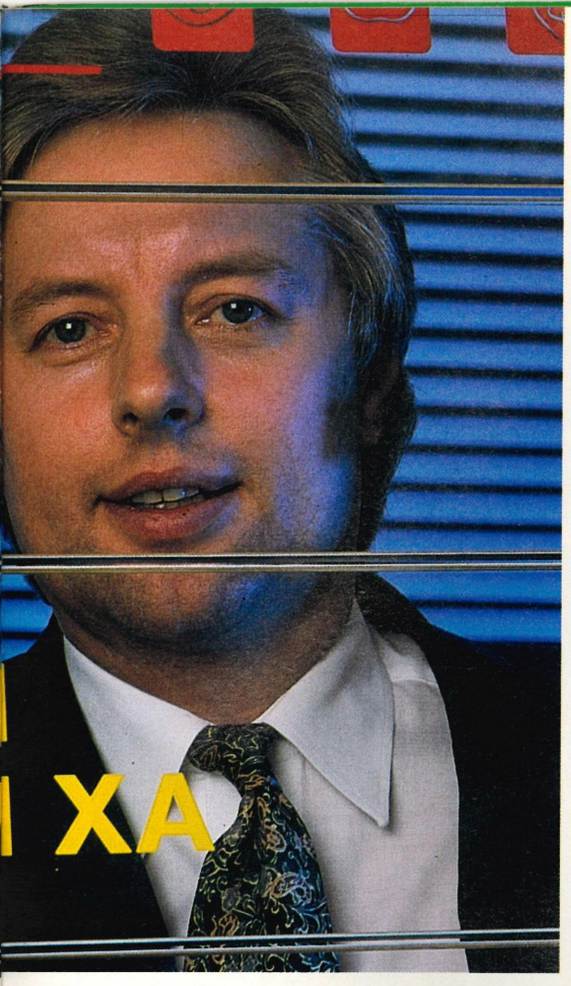
AC: Earlier this year you said you would introduce a carousel player to accommodate the two discs needed for films and some music titles. Is that still going to happen?

JH: Yes.
We have decided to take advantage of the fact that there are already some good carousels in existing audio systems. We are evaluating the best one to use and will launch it in the first three months of next year.

AC: A few months ago there was much talk of Amstrad producing a CDi player.



The new 450 player from Philips is designed to be more portable









Above: Philips will introduce a combination TV/CDi unit later this year. Above, left: the full selection of CDi controllers. Left: Philips is developing an MPEG board for the PC

Since then, nothing has been said. What happened?

JH: If a deal with Amstrad was going to take place, I think it would have happened by now.

AC: When exactly will you start encoding CDi titles to the new White Book Video CD standard?

JH: We have already started encoding to White Book. Indecent Proposal is the first White Book title.

AC: Will you re-encode the back catalogue of existing CDi titles to the White Book standard?

JH: Yes, we will. Obviously, as a publisher, we want to take advantage of the introduction of dedicated Video CD players.

AC: There has been a lot of confusion about the compatibility of PAL and NTSC titles, with Paramount insisting on a lock to prevent some NTSC films working on a PAL player. Will all future CDi films play throughout the world on all players?

JH: We have instructed our publishing division to take the lock off the films, but there will still be a screen bumper. We want CDi to be a world standard, although we know that Paramount is concerned about parallel imports. That is something we will have to control through our own distribution.

AC: You are now releasing titles on CDi and CD-ROM. Do you see CD-ROM as ultimately being a bigger market for Philips?

JH: As a publisher we own certain rights, so if it makes sense, we will launch some titles on both formats where appropriate. It will depend on the title. Some products play much better on CDi.

AC: How many CDi players have you sold worldwide?

JH: 400,000.

AC: What is your target for the end of this year?

JH: One million.

AC: Philips is keen not to promote CDi as just a games console, but games are the biggest selling software category and that is what consumers want. Aren't you effectively trying to buck market forces?

JH: We have produced games titles in the past year which are significantly better than anything else. The software is improving all the time.
Take The 7th Guest as an example. We have put the video element back into video games.
But you have to remember that there has been a decline in the video game market and people are getting tired of simple platform games. CDi offers much more than that.

AC: Are you concerned about the launch of rival platforms such as 3DO?

JH: We shouldn't really compare ourselves with 3DO. They have taken a different position - 3DO is an expensive games platform with almost 100 per cent games software. At $499 they are subsidising the product. If it is to succeed, they have to reduce the price of the player to below $200. And it doesn't have Digital Video. We can define our own destiny because we control the hardware and software. We can integrate CDi into other systems.

AC: How long do you think it will be before we have recordable CD systems in the consumer market?

JH: We won't see that development for some time - probably five to ten years. We already produce professional recordable CD systems, but they cost several thousand pounds.

THE NEW CDi 450

450 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Options screens:
General, Audio, Date/Time, Memory
CDi start-up screen
CD-DA screen
CD+G screen
CDi Ready screen

Controls:
On/Off (right-hand side) with green LED indicator on top
Open/Close (push/push cover)

Front panel (1):
I/O port (8-p Mini-DIN) for wired controller

Rear panel (2):
DC-in (from external power source)
Video (CVBS) out (yellow cinch)
Audio left and right out (white and red cinch)
DC-out (for optional RF modulator)

Top (3):
Disc compartment cover (right-hand side)
Digital Video compartment cover (left-hand side)
On/Off and start-up indicator (green LED)

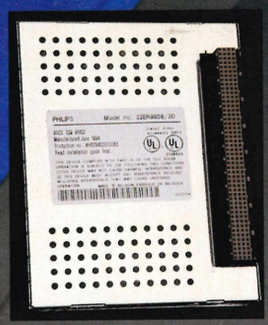
Accessories supplied:
Wired controller (4) (1.80m cable length)
Power supply box (5) (1.80m cable length)
A/V cables (1.50m cable length)
Cinch to SCART for Europe, Cinch to cinch for USA

Optional accessories:
I/O splitter to enable two controllers to be plugged into the front of the player
Infra red remote controller set (IR receiver with IR controller; IR receiver allows connection of one extra wired controller)
Connection set (additional power supply box plus A/V cables for use in another room)
RF modulator (active, powered by set: NTSC for USA, PAL-BG for Europe, PAL-I for UK)
Extension cable for controller
Digital Video cartridge (6)

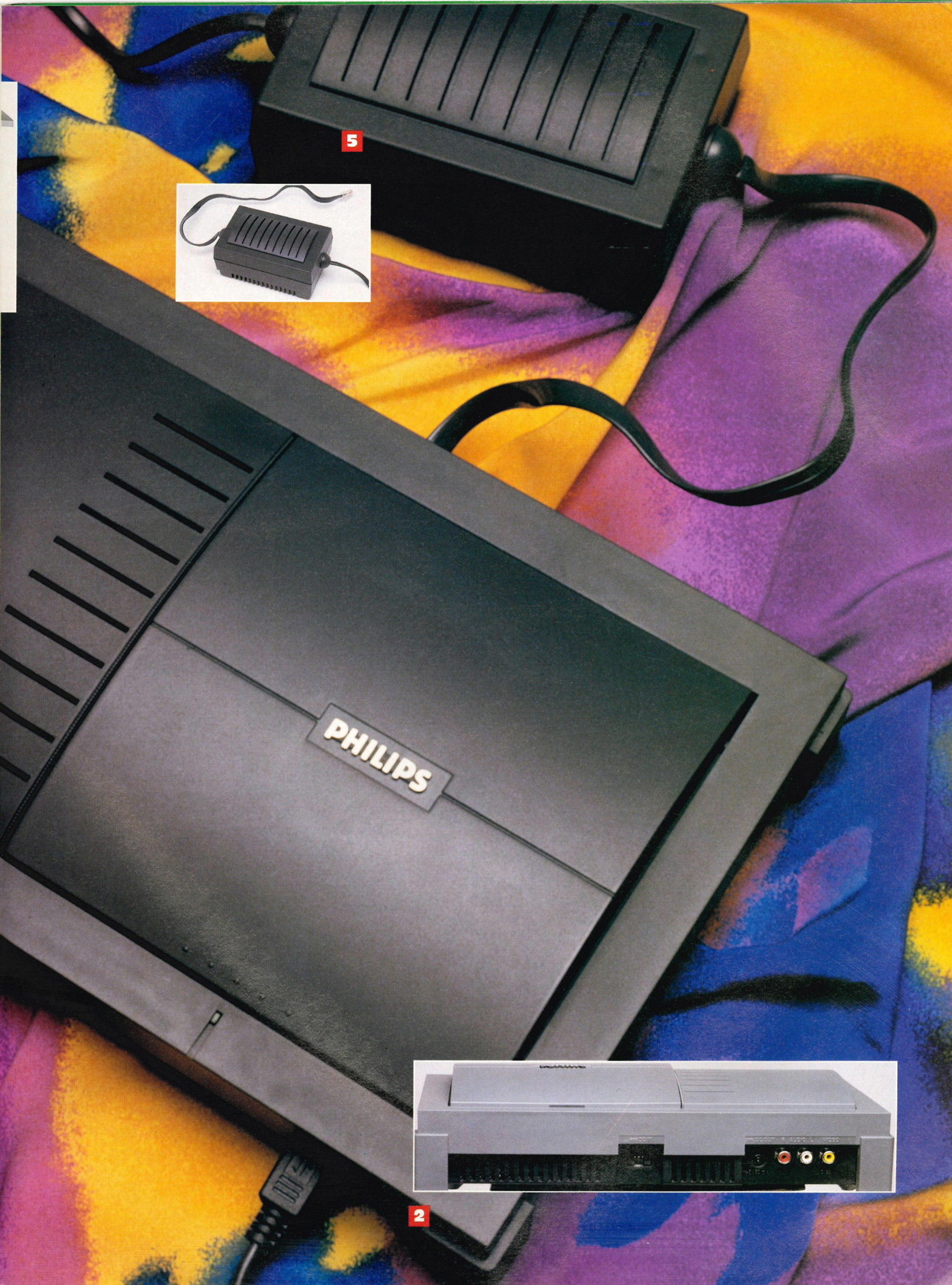
Special features:
Plays CDi, CD-DA, CD+G and Photo CD discs
Works with all standard TV receivers and stereo systems
Easy operation using on-screen program display
Three key, wired, universal controller
Click-in extension for DV cartridge
Outputs: video (CVBS) and audio left and right (all versions)
Wall-type power supply







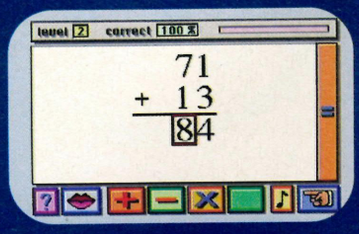



5
PHILIPS
2

Go on a sweet hunt in Dimo's Quest, enter the world of magic in Max Magic, learn French in Muzzy and improve your arithmetic in Stickybear Maths - there's loads of summer fun with the latest children's releases







Stickybear Maths

Ever thought maths was boring? Well, here is the perfect way to help young children improve their mathematical skills.

Stickybear Maths introduces you to the loveable Stickybear characters who will take you on a mathematical voyage of discovery. There are problems to solve and games to play.

The disc works in a very simple way. There are six levels to choose from. Level 1 involves addition and subtraction, level 2 addition, subtraction and multiplication and levels 3 to 6 addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.

All you have to do is solve each mathematical problem correctly. After solving a given number of sums, you can play a simple game with Stickybear.

If at any point you want to delete a particular type of question, such as multiplication, just click on the appropriate icon on the screen. The sound can be switched off to help you concentrate, and there is the option of commentary in English or Spanish.

Produced by Richard Hefter

RATINGS

Graphics: 82%

Sound: 80%

Interactivity: 85%

Overall: 85%

Cost: £24.99 **Out: August**



MUZZY

Muzzy is a friendly green monster from outer space who has been helping children around the world to learn English since 1987.

The star of the hugely popular BBC English TV series is about to make his debut on CDi. Muzzy leads a large, loveable cast of characters including Princess Sylvia, her fat mother the Queen of Gondoland, and clever Corvax, who plots to prevent Sylvia from marrying Bob the gardener.

The first disc in the series is



MAX MAGIC

Meet Max Amazing, expert extraordinaire, the master of mental magic. Max is your guide in the wonderful world of magic in which he lives. He will show you new tricks and ask you to pit your wits against his own. You begin by touring the Magic Mansion, where you can either see seven tricks performed on stage or enter Max's inner sanctum where you and he play alone.

By moving the spotlight around the room, you can choose the trick you want Max to perform - try Take Away, Pyramid Mystery, the Happy Birthday game or the Psychic Cabinet.



The real joy of this title is the wonderful range of voices Max insists on using. At times suitably menacing, at others very suave, Max becomes your mentor in all things magic.

The tricks are convincing and will leave you laughing with surprise or kicking yourself with irritation. Your friends will be amazed, too. There's plenty to tease the brain cells as you struggle against the CDi player in a desperate attempt to wipe the smirk of Max's face. Truth is, he usually has the upper hand, so you must persevere!





RATINGS

Graphics: 80%

Sound: 82%

Interactivity: 85%

Overall: 82%

Cost: £29.99 Out: September

in English/French. It can be used to teach English children French, and vice versa. Discs in other languages, including German, Italian and Spanish, will be released in due course.

Muzzy contains 30 episodes, each of which consists of a Digital Video sequence, a learning sequence and a game. The DV sequences can be watched all the way through with or without the text printed on the screen. Each learning sequence teaches the key points of vocabulary and structure from the video and encourages the child to repeat them.

The points made in the learning section are then reinforced in the games mode, in which children compete against the clock to score a sufficient number of points to progress to the next stage of the disc.

This is a simple and fun way for young children to learn a foreign language or improve their English. As Muzzy is already broadcast in 40 countries and has proved hugely popular on video, it is bound to be a winner on CDi.

Produced by Vektor/BBC English



RATINGS

Graphics: 75%

Sound: 80%

Interactivity: 85%

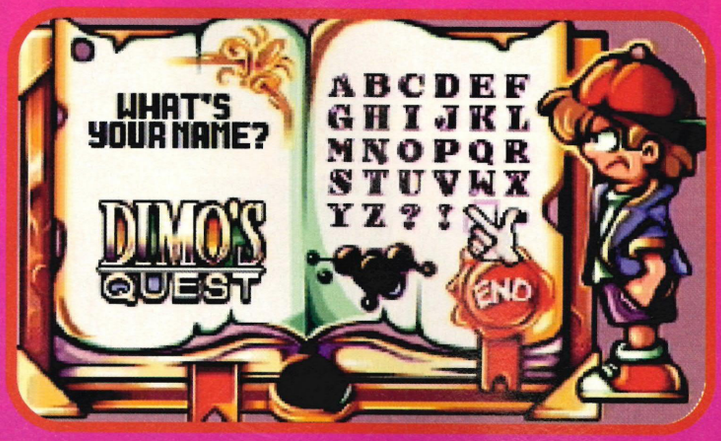
Overall: 80%

Cost: TBA Out: TBA

But don't let that put you off. There's plenty of fun to be had, so get your friends round and impress them with your magical skills.

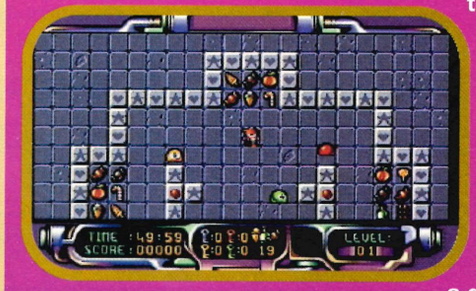
Produced by PF Magic





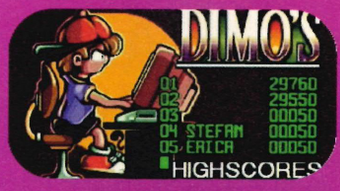
DIMO'S QUEST

Dimo is the cool young dude who takes you on a "candy quest" as you battle your way through an increasingly difficult series of mazes. Your task is to gobble up as many sweets as possible (that shouldn't be too painful!) and collect the keys you need to open the locked doors that stand in your way before making it to the exit.



Sounds easy, doesn't it? Well, it is to begin with. But then things start to get trickier, so just when you think you've got the game licked - BLAM! you are back to where you started.

First off, you must avoid the bouncing blobs that are out to destroy you. Hit them, and you're a gonner. As you progress through the game, you will notice that the stepping stones you walk across start to get smaller and eventually disintegrate altogether. Step on one at the wrong moment, and you will fall into the water (at least I assume it's water - the colours on screen are so psychedelic it's hard to know!)



In the background, the clock ticks away relentlessly as you struggle to master each level. If you are successful, you will be shown your end of level score, your time bonus and total score.

The graphics are colourful and the whole game is livened up by a very snappy soundtrack that gets you in the right mood from the start. One word of advice - do NOT try to play Dimo's Quest using the standard CDi remote. It will drive you nuts. Get a Touchpad at all costs, otherwise you'll end up hurling something nasty at your TV.

Dimo's Quest is a simple, base case title, without all the whistles and stops found on more expensive Digital Video games. But it is disarmingly addictive, and if there are young children in the house, they will probably get hooked.

Produced by The Vision Factory

RATINGS

Graphics: 80%

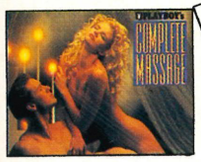
Sound: 82%

Interactivity: 85%

Overall: 82%

Cost: TBA Out: September

CD-i Magic







Can you afford Mad Dog McCree?
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WIN A DAY AT THORPE PARK!



1994 is the International Year of The Family. To celebrate, we have arranged this easy competition to win five family tickets to Britain's most popular family leisure park.

Thorpe Park, in Surrey, has over a million visitors a year and now boasts the new £2.5m Ranger County, home to the big cuddly Thorpe Park Rangers. It is a brilliant new area with two great family rides, the spectacular Chief Rangers Carousel with the extraordinary spinning Mr Elephant, and the swinging Mr Monkey's Banana Ride!

During the August Bank Holiday weekend (28, 29), Philips is teaming up with the Young Telegraph to provide a special multimedia bus at Thorpe Park. This will house a bank of CDi players and children's software for visitors to play with. TV celebrities and a mystery pop group will also be there.

In addition, you will be able to try Thorpe Park's thrilling rides and attractions - some wet, some dry, some fast, some slow. Loggers Leap, Depth Charge and Thunder River are always a splash hit! The Flying Fish, Tea Cup Ride and Calgary Stampede give even more thrills.

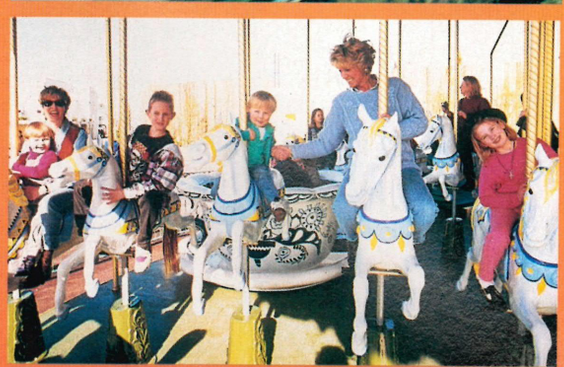
Or try out Viking Rowers, Hudson River Rafters, a paddle in Fantasy Reef and a trip on the Canada Creek Railway.

You could do all this and more, simply by entering our competition and being one of the first five people to reply with the correct answers. Each family ticket allows four people into the park (adults or children). Closing date for entries is 17 August.

All entries must be sent to: CDi Magazine, Haymarket Publishing, 60 Waldegrave Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8LG.







COMPETITION RULES: This competition is not open to employees of Thorpe Park, Haymarket Publishing or anyone connected with the organisation of the competition. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence can be entered into. No cash alternative is available. Winners will be notified by post.

ANSWER THE FIVE QUESTIONS BELOW AND YOU COULD WIN A FAMILY TICKET FOR FOUR PEOPLE FOR A BRILLIANT DAY OUT AT THORPE PARK.

1) What is the name of the new area at Thorpe Park?
a. Chief Rangers Haunt b. Ranger County c. Ranger Country

2) Which is Thorpe Park's most famous Splash Ride?
a. Flying Fish b. Tea Cup c. Loggers Leap

3) Which motorway close to Thorpe Park is the largest ring road in Europe? a. M11 b. M25 c. M2

4) Who plays the part of Fred Flintstone in the film of the popular cartoon series? a. Harrison Ford b. John Goodman c. Mel Gibson

5) What is the name of the character who stars in the new CDi/BBC language learning disc for children? a. Muzzy b. Fuzzy c. Corvax

Name:

Address:

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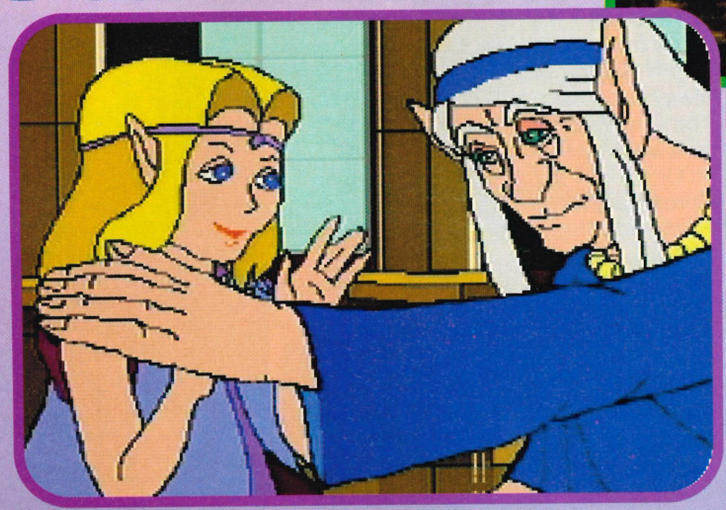
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DARREN HEDGES begins the first part of our player's guide to Zelda: The Wand of Gamelon. Part 2 will be published in October

ZELDA

THE WAND OF GAMELON PLAYER'S GUIDE





SAKADO 1

Enter Sakado.
Collect rubies (a minimum of 100 before you leave Sakado) by attacking and killing the Dairas and Arpagos. Use your shield to avoid the axes being thrown at you. Enter Lika's house at the end of the street.
Go up the stairs and exit through the window to Pier Street.
On Pier Street, enter the first doorway to the right of the window.
While in this first room, select ropes from your inventory. Enter the door on the right of the screen.
Move to the top of the playfield (if you wish, return to the merchant shop and buy ropes). Try not to fall as more Arpagos will appear. Pick up the Arpagos egg in the nest at the top of the screen. Return to the bottom of the playfield and exit.
Return to the merchant shop on the far left of the main street playfield. Buy 30 units of lamp oil, rope and bombs. Strike the Triforce to return to the overworld map.

ARU AINU

Enter Aru Ainu.
Go left and zig zag your way down the playfield. You may jump over the pigs or crouch and strike them. Go to the right of the playfield and enter the hut.
To kill Dodongo, wait until it is on the opposite side of the cave; go to the bottom level and throw a bomb. Pick up the key and exit through the entrance at the top.
Proceed to the hut at the right of the playfield and enter.
Talk to Lubonga to receive the shroud. Strike the Triforce to return to the overworld map. Tykogi Tower opens.

KOBITAN 1

Enter Kobitan.
Move to the lower left area and go into the second cottage.
Time the throws of the Moblin spear throwers; you may wish to use a bomb to get the one on the lower level. Kill the Moblin spear throwers and take the lantern on the second level. Exit the cottage.
Proceed to the barn and activate your lantern. Kill the vire (batman), use a rope to reach the top level, take the key and exit.
Now move to the middle cottage on the lower level and enter.
Speak to Makoto; he takes the Arpagos egg and gives you the magic flute. Climb the stairs and strike the Triforce to return to the overworld map. Ahitaru opens.



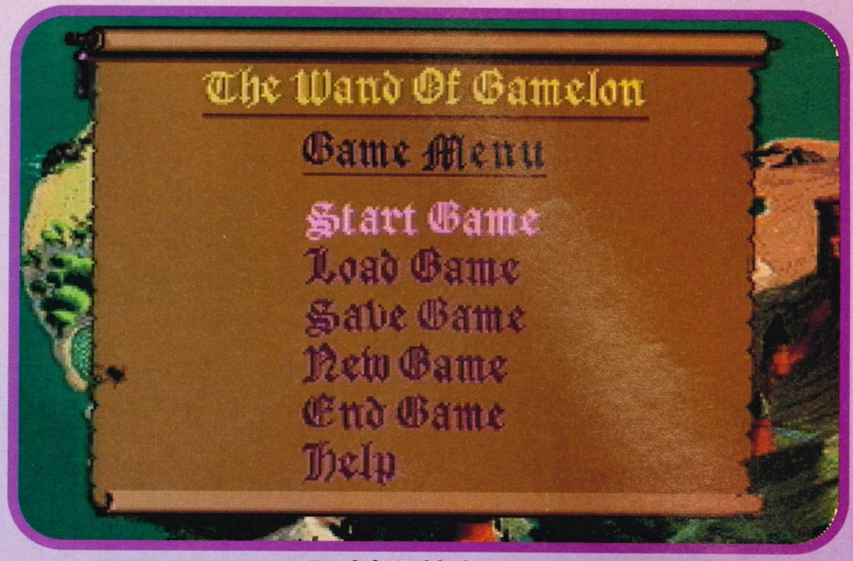
SAKADO 2

Enter the tavern to the right of the merchant shop. Use your regular lantern and ropes to get to the doorway at the top as quickly as possible. Travel to the left of the screen and pick up the power sword (your life hearts will be restored). Return to main street.
Enter Lika's house at the end of the street. Go up the stairs and out through the window to Pier Street.
On Pier Street, proceed to the cemetry (the archway with the cross on top) on the upper level, and enter.
Use a bomb to destroy the pillar, then move to the far left of the playfield and pick up the key. Exit through the gate you came in through.
Go into the church at the right of the cemetry. Animation automatically plays on entering. Use the regular lantern to light up the playfield.
Climb to the top of the church and use the shroud to attack









Far left: Zelda has to rescue Link (middle) from the forces of evil. You must help her explore the island

Gibdo (the mummy), who disappears after you kill him. The Triforce is then displayed. Strike it to return to the overworld map. Washubi swamp opens.

WASHUBI SWAMP 1

Enter Washubi swamp.
These are very tough playfields! Try to keep your full life hearts so that you can use the power sword.
Move to the right of the playfield, jumping between tree branches and riding on the backs of the Arkadai. Kill the tree slugs by crouching and shooting (it's difficult, so you may just want to avoid them).
In the second pond, jump off the Arkadai before it submerges, then use the rope to get into the tree branchess. Move across the tree branches and jump to the island with the hut.
Go in by the door.
Try to jump on to the second Arkadai that comes your way. Ride it to the first stump and then get off (walk off its back). Wait for the other Arkadai as it travels back to the right. Jump on and ride to the island with the broken tree. Jump to the island and then across to the floating log. You can then hop across one Arkadai to the island with the hut. Go into the hut. Strike the Triforce to return to the overworld map. Hanyu forest opens.

HANYU FOREST AND WASHUBI SWAMP 2

Enter Hanyu forest. This is another difficult region.
Move towards the tree door at the far right of the playfield. It is advisable to "kill everything" on this playfield, preferably with the power sword or bombs. Kill the Tiktites by crouching and shooting. Enter the tree door.
Go along the bottom of the forest playfield. Jump up and take the Hanyu spore on the tree stump in the middle of the playfield.
Walk along the upper level of the playfield towards the right.
Strike the Triforce (you may have to attach a rope to the tree to get to the upper level) to return to the overworld map.
Return to Washubi swamp. Proceed to Grimbo's shack by following the directions in stage 5 (Wahubi Swamp 1).
Speak to Grimbo who takes the Hanyu spore and gives you the power glove.
Strike the Triforce to return to the overworld map. The fairy pool opens.

AHITARU

Enter Ahitaru.
Go to the far right of the playfield. Shoot the bees or use the magic flute to stop them. Enter the cave on the bottom level. Kill the Gohma and exit through the cave at the bottom right of the playfield.
Walk towards the right of the playfield along the upper level. Jump across the pit and talk to Sanda. She gives you water of life. (Life hearts restored). Continue to the right of the playfield, and jump up to the level of the fish's eye.
Use the power glove to remove the rock from the fish's eye and move through the opening.
Speak to Yokan. Pick up the key he leaves after he disappears.
Strike the Triforce to return to the overworld map. Shutoy Lake opens.

TYKOGI TOWER

Enter Tykogi Tower. Proceed to the far right of the playfield. Kill the Arpagos and Octoroks.
Use the power glove to clear the rock from the gate and enter the tower. Talk to Harbanno and pick up the key he leaves. Use the lantern to light the playfield and ropes to avoid wall masters. Climb to the top of the chamber, and enter top door. Animation automatically plays when you enter this playfield.
Strike Iron Knuckle with the power glove; he disappears and leaves a key. You receive a fourth life heart. Pick up the key and move to the door at the lower right of the playfield.
Strike the chains above Mayor Cravendish. He gives you the magic lantern. Strike the Triforce to return to the overworld map. Dordung cave opens.

For further info call the Philips Clubline on 0891 244424.



DARREN HEDGES continues his guide to Space Ace. Part 1 was published in our June issue and part 3 will appear in October

space ace

PLAYER'S GUIDE

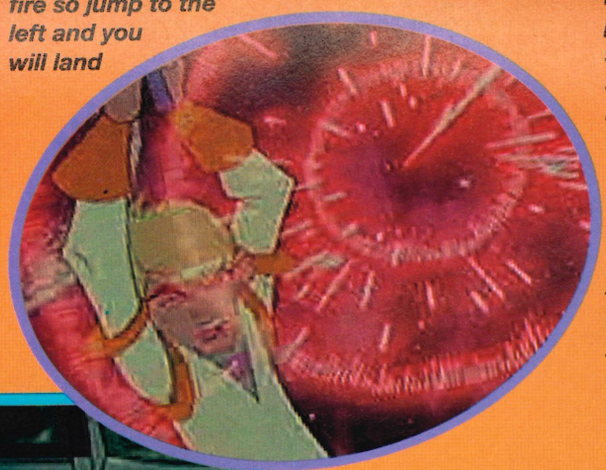
LEVEL 4:

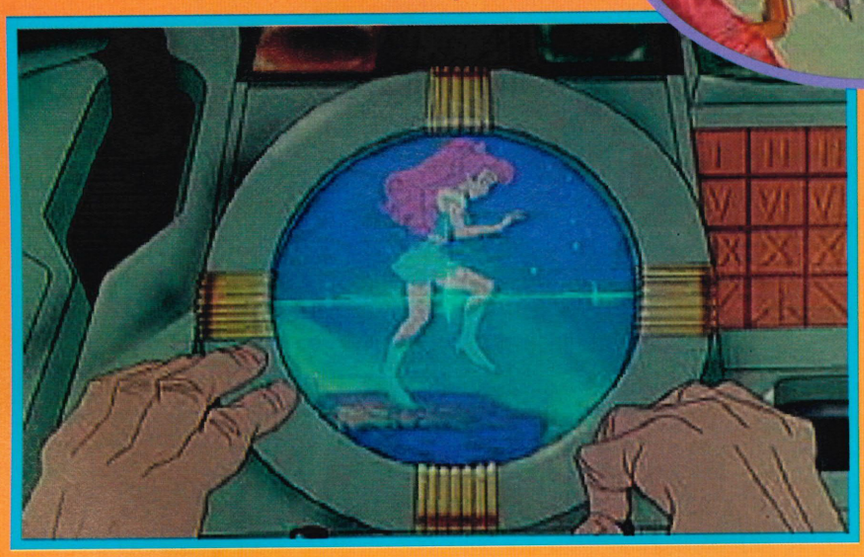
The first moves should be jump to the right and then push your joystick down. Dexter will make a little jump backwards. Now push your joystick up. When Dexter arrives in the next room you will see ENERGIZE on the screen.
If you Energize follow path 2.
Otherwise, turn left into the entrance of a tube which lights up.

You will land on a green platform. Jump to the right when the platform is hit and you will land on a red platform. When this is also hit push your joystick to the left and Dexter will jump on to a yellow platform that is passing by.
Then push the joystick forward to jump onto the pink platform. This platform will be hit by enemy fire so jump to the left and you will land on a yellow platform. You will arrive in another room, where you choose to go left or right.

PATH 2:

If you changed into Ace you will be taken away by a conveyor belt. You will see a red robot above you shooting at the conveyor belt. Press an action button to shoot it. Then jump to the right onto a green platform. Two robots shoot at this platform, so press the action button twice to shoot them. Then jump to the right to land on a purple platform and again shoot twice at the two red robots. Ace then changes back into Dexter and you arrive in another room. Just choose left or right to go to the next level.

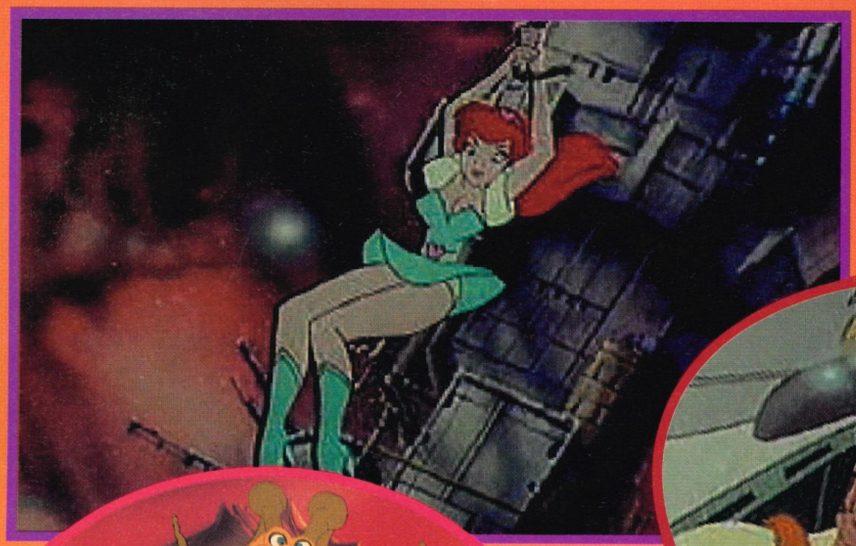


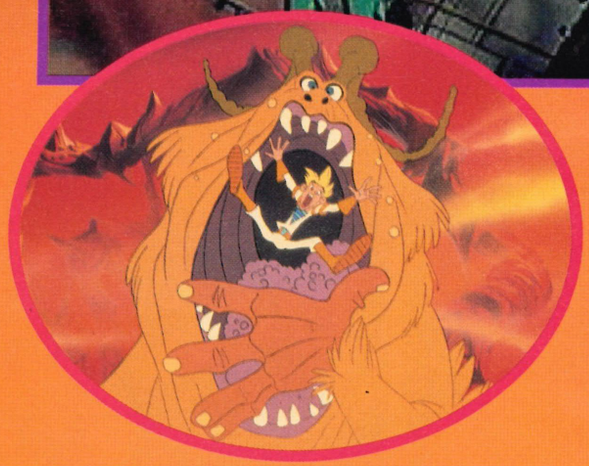


Top: Ace and Kimberley have a little row. Above: Ace gets zapped by the Infanto Ray. Left: Can Kimberley be saved?

LEVEL 5:

The green monsters are chasing you. Push up to run away and to avoid being smashed to a pulp by the two large machines.
Then turn left and at the next corner turn right and you will arrive at a crossing.
If you choose to ENERGIZE, follow path 2.
If you stayed as Dexter, push up to







Below: our superhero prepares for battle. Left: Kimberley swings into action. Bottom left: Dexter gets caught

run to the next junction, turn right then left. Finally push your joystick forward twice and you will jump onto a ladder and climb into a spaceship.

PATH 2:

If you turned into Ace, press an action button to crush the two green monsters that jump on you. Two robots will then try to shoot you, so go right and they will shoot each other. Turn left at the next intersection. Two monsters will appear - press your action button to shoot them, then go to the left.
In front of you a large robot will be aiming at you, so press an action button to detroy it. Then push your joystick to the left to prevent yourself from being burned.
You will now turn back into Dexter. Turn right and you will climb into a space ship.

LEVEL 6:

You will fall down a ladder and land on a wooden bridge. Here you will be captured by a pink robot, so press an action button to shoot it. You will see a yellow light on your right, so press right and you will land on the other side of a bridge. A large column rises and falls in front of you - go forward and jump on it to reach the other part of the bridge. Another pink robot attacks you and you will see ENERGIZE. If you change into Ace, follow path 2.
If you stayed as Dexter, push your joystick right to run away. The robot will then recapture you. Press an action button to kill it.
The last parts of the bridge will now be destroyed. Push your joystick to the right and then jump to the left. Finally, push up twice to finish the level.

PATH 2:

The pink robot will not be able to capture you. A big three-eyed swamp monster appears in front of you, so press an action button to shoot it. From here go to the right to avoid being beaten up. Another swamp monster appears - shoot this one as well, and go to the left. Then shoot the third monster and you will change back to Dexter. Just push your joystick right and you will climb up the ladder.

LEVEL 7:

At the start of this level you are leaving in your spaceship. You will fly into an old spaceship that is floating in space. Watch out, your enemies are taking aim close behind you. Avoid the first shot by moving the joystick up, then avoid the next two by going left each time. You can shoot the two enemy ships in front of you by pressing the action button twice.
Then push your joystick up to leave the old spaceship. As soon as you see yourself leaving the old ship, push down to re-enter the old hulk. Then push up to avoid being shot and shoot one of the spaceships in front of you.
You will automatically arrive at the surface of the old spaceship. An old fort is in front of you. Push your joystick up and press an action button to destroy the next spaceship. Then push your joystick up to avoid the next shot. Finally, shoot the last spaceship and you will make a smooth landing.

For more info on CDi games, phone the Philips Clubline on 0891 244424.



THE 7TH GUEST.™ Beware of the ghostly guests and creepy characters in this interactive thriller and enter the bizarre hilltop mansion of reclusive toy maker Henry Stauf. The game features beautiful three dimensional graphics, live action video, an original soundtrack and sophisticated puzzle games which must be solved in order to stop the menace looming over the small town of Harley. The 7th Guest will be available during the third quarter of 1994. £49.99 Cat. No: 811 004 0

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ALL REQUIRE DIGITAL VIDEO CARTRIDGES.



LITTLE DIVIL™ In this humorous adventure game, guide the Divil Mutt through the Labyrinth of Chaos to bring back the Mystic Pizza of Plenty. Along the way, you'll also have to free the unfortunate divils who were unsuccessful on previous pizza missions, collect various artefacts, and avoid The Entity, that nefarious being who's out to send Mutt to the torture chamber. Litil Divil will be available summer 1994. £39.99 Cat. No: 810 016 9



MAD DOG McCREE™ (with gun). Mad Dog McCree is a live-action videogame set in the fabled days of the American Old West. Your mission – through a series of hair raising gunfights, free the town's sheriff who's been kidnapped by Mad Dog's nasty gang and, finally, face down Mad Dog himself. Reflexes and timing are critical, or you'll wind up in the undertaker's parlour. Mad Dog McCree will be available in summer 1994. £69.99 Cat. No: 810 008 9



DRAGON'S LAIR 1.™ Following the success of Space Ace, this is the second Don Bluth game to appear on CD-i. An evil wizard has captured the king's daughter and imprisoned her in the caverns below his castle. The king's champion, Dirk the Daring, must fight his way past the wizard's traps and monsters and finally slay the dragon to rescue the princess. Dragon's Lair 1 will be available in summer 1994. £49.99 Cat. No: 810 018 1

YOU WON'T BELIEVE YOUR CD-I'S.

PHILIPS
MEDIA

The Ultimate Noah's Ark

WIN £10,000!

Here is you chance to win the staggering sum of £10,000, all thanks to Philips. No, you don't have to win the Grand National. All you need to do is pop down to your local CDi stockist on 26 August and buy a copy of The Ultimate Noah's Ark on CDi.

Why? I hear you cry. Well, inside the CD case you will find a booklet with the entry form for a fantastic competition based on the painting featured on the disc. Artist Mike Wilks has created a picture containing 707 creatures, of which 353 have a mate. Your task is to find the one animal without a mate and identify its gender. Only by eliminating the pairs one by one will the missing animal be found.



There are 256 separate screens on the CDi which allow you to explore the painting in detail. There is also a special tagging system so you can keep track of your progress as you pair off the animals.

In addition, you can watch selected video clips of the animals in their natural habitats and discover the facts about our natural heritage.

For each species you can find out where it lives, its size compared to man, its place in the animal kingdom and the scale of the threat to its existence.

Don't worry if you miss out on the big prize, though. There are some brain teasing CDi picture puzzles as well.

If you solve these correctly, you could win one of several special CDi prizes.

Don't forget - all the details are printed inside the booklet that comes with the disc. Please do not send your replies to CDi Magazine, as we cannot deal with them.

Cost: £24.99 Available: 26 August





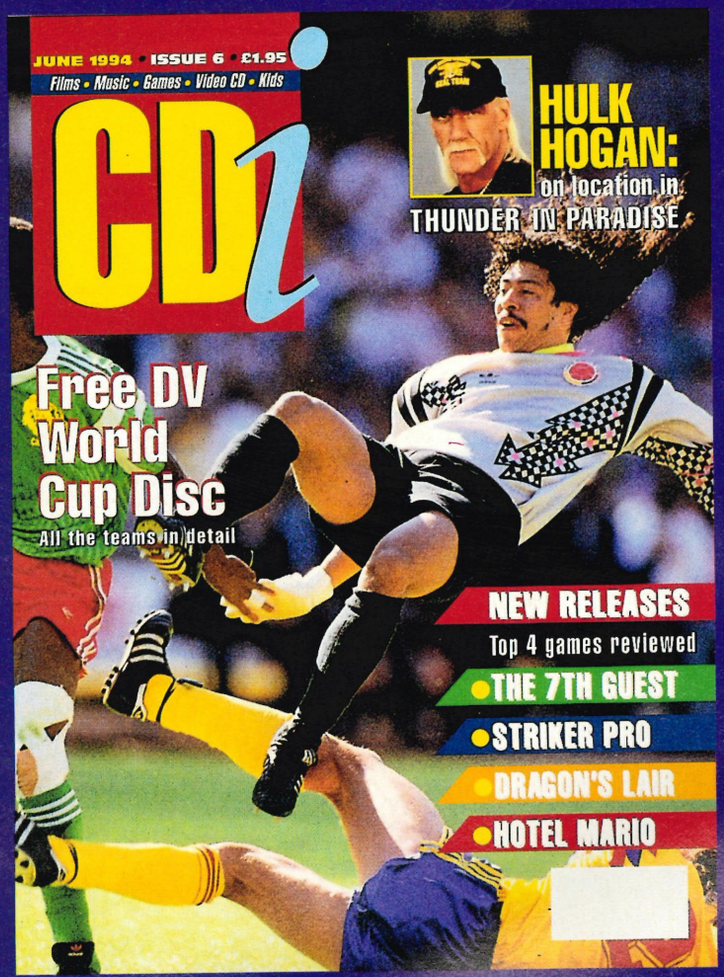
letters

Write to CDi Magazine, Haymarket Publishing, 60 Waldegrave Road, Teddington, Middlesex TW11 8LG.

all in the family

Hoorah! Bravo! Well done. Brilliant. I am, of course, referring to the cover disc on issue 6. Please, please, please can we have more. I bought my CDi player in October 1992 and after the initial rush of buying discs, mainly for my two children, I have been in limbo with it. Your magazine, and June's cover disc, may have changed that. Bearing in mind that I haven't bought any software for a year, what would you recommend for two children (aged 4 and 7) and myself? I like adventure games and platform/puzzle titles. For the kids, I need titles that are fun, involving, easy to learn and educational. Do you think we will ever see games that are as good as, say, Sonic, Elite or Sensible Soccer? It seems that CDi is stuck between the top of the pile consoles and the out-and-out computer systems.

Adrian Adsett
Worthing



We are looking at the possibility of putting a free cover disc on future issues. For your children, why not try the Two-Can series of How it Works discs, Sound Trap and Shipwreck? And for yourself, we heartily recommend The 7th Guest. On the software front, the quality of games titles is improving all the time with US Gold, Virgin and Mirage now all developing titles for CDi.

ED

the mousetrap

Issue 4 of CDi Magazine gave an extensive guide on hints for the game Alice in Wonderland. I wonder, however, if anyone can help me locate the dormouse referred to as this is the only thing preventing us from proceeding into Looking Glass Land.

Irene Macphail
Glasgow



A tricky one this, I know. First you must have the top hat from the Mad Hatter. Then, inside the first rabbit warren, stand to the right of the Cheshire cat, put on the top hat and float up to the left to the lampshade. Finally press the controller to the right and float down on to the ledge. The dormouse should now appear.

ED

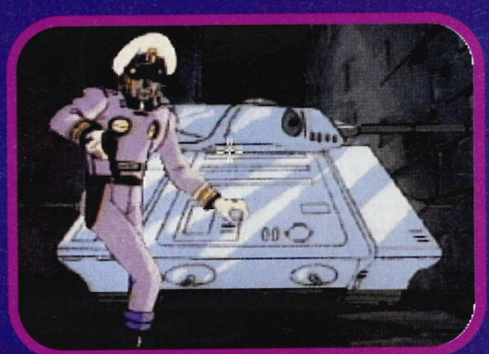
let's beat 'em up, shoot 'em up please!

I think CDi is absolutely excellent, but I have a few other things to say and I know at least 10 other people who agree with me. The games are outstanding, but sometimes a little too hard. You need to be able to complete the first few bits to remain interested. There should be more beat 'em up and shoot 'em up titles, too. I know CDi is a family entertainment system, but the quality and scope is there, so why not use it?



I have Escape from CyberCity and find it very hard. Will Philips ever produce a light gun to go with it, which would make it easier and much better to play? A Digital Video football game would be excellent, so why don't Philips do one? Your magazine is cool, but next time you do a questionnaire, could you put the form in the middle so we don't have to rip up the rest of the magazine! Could you also cover the adult discs, please. I know this is difficult as CDi is a magazine for all ages, but if you could just write about them, we would know what they are like. And it would be great to have more competitions in the mag.

Steven Husselbee
Rugeley





Philips is always looking at the possibility of doing more beat 'em up and shoot 'em up games, with titles like Mutant Rampage currently in development. The only game we know will have a gun with it is Mad Dog McCree. On the subject of adult titles, such as the Joy of Sex and Playboy Massage, we do cover these but have to do so carefully as many young children read the magazine.

ED

it's all in the game



Out next year: Rise of the Robots

Congratulations on being the only magazine available that is entirely devoted to the CDi platform. I bought my system a few months ago and I am pleased with the outcome. My only complaint is the lack of software, particularly games. When will titles such as The 7th Guest, Dragon's Lair, Microcosm and Rise of the Robots be released?
Also, are there any development plans for the following: sports games such as FIFA International Soccer; NBA Jam; beat 'em ups such as Mortal Kombat 1 and 2 and Streetfighter 2; strategy games such as Sim City 2000; simulation games such as TFX; and adventure games such as The Journeyman project?
The above is only a selection, but I am sure other CDi owners would like to see them appear on the format.

W Preston
Waddington

The 7th Guest and Dragon's Lair have already been released. Rise of the Robots will be released during the first quarter of 1995. We have no firm release date yet for Microcosm. As for new games titles, Philips is constantly assessing what new games it can develop for the CDi format. As soon as we learn more, we will let you know.

ED

attic adventures

I can hardly believe it. The 7th Guest has arrived! Was it worth the wait? You bet! After hours of mind numbing concentration, I have finally made it through to the climactic "green vomit in the attic" scene (although I have still to solve a couple of the puzzles).
I would like to raise a point regarding the dreaded maze which, for the uninitiated, leads from the kitchen to the coffin-filled basement. In Dominik Diamond's (very) advanced preview in issue 2, he says that a map for the maze can be found on the carpet over the Bishop's Puzzle.
I agree that we do get a brief glimpse of what appears to be a map design on the carpet, but I cannot see how it relates to the maze. Am I missing something?
Also, why is it that for the final "illuminating" puzzle, you are stuck in the attic, unable to access the book of clues? It took me some time to work out what I was supposed to do, but I did get there in the end. Anyway, well done Virgin Games. I look forward to your further releases on CDi, as well as Litil Divil, Rise of the Robots, Mad Dog McCree and Chaos Control. Keep them coming.

Greg Gibbs
Chelmsford

If you have queries about CDi games, contact the Philips Media Clubline on 0891 244424 for assistance.

ED



desperately seeking issues 1 and 2

WANTED! Issues 1 and 2 of CDi Magazine, please. I will pay £5 each for the first two issues. If anyone is prepared to sell them, please contact me on 0252 613023.

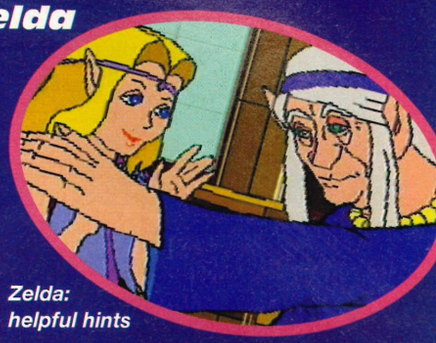
S Phillips
Fleet
Hampshire



zooming in on zelda

Is it possible to get any hints, please, for playing Zelda: Wand of Gamelon, similar to the ones you did for Link: Faces of Evil? Basically, Zelda is driving us to distraction! Any help you could give would be very much appreciated.

Russell Jowett
Ilkley



Zelda: helpful hints

We have had numerous requests for a player's guide to Zelda, so part 1 is published in this issue on pages 46-47. Part 2 will be published in October.

ED

when the price is right

I am a new CDi owner, having previously owned nearly every other games system. I am extremely pleased with my CDi 350 portable player.
The portable may have cost me a fortune, but it has been well worth it. The screen quality is excellent and, fitted with the DV cartridge, has all the features of the 210.
What I am a little disappointed about, though, is that it isn't well marketed. It doesn't feature in your magazine, isn't advertised at all and, to my amazement, isn't bundled with any software. Also it is very expensive. When I spoke to Philips about it, they said that the 350 was really aimed at companies and professional users. I do think, however, that for the right price and with some software bundled with it, the portable could take off in a big way. It is very nice to look at and easy to carry around. What do you think?



Alan Bradford
Hornchurch

We did feature the portable 350 in issue 2 of the magazine. But, as Philips pointed out, it is intended more for corporate use rather than the consumer market - hence its high price.

ED

CD-i

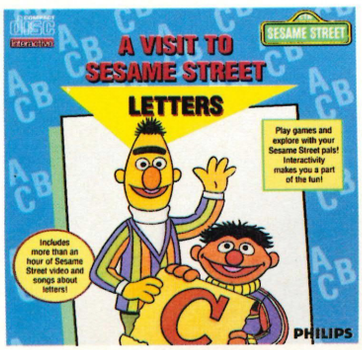
CDi TITLES CATALOGUE AND PRICE LIST SUMMER/AUTUMN 1994

CHILDREN'S TITLES

A VISIT TO SESAME STREET - LETTERS

Meet the characters from the TV series and explore the world of Sesame Street. Includes some letter based games.

Price £29.99 Catalogue No 690 018 2



A VISIT TO SESAME STREET - NUMBERS

Visit Bert and Ernie's place, Big Bird's House and the Count's Castle.

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BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

The story of Beauty and the Beast told by Mia Farrow.

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BERENSTAIN BEARS

Meet the popular and friendly Berenstain Bears and follow the young bears' antics as they try and persuade their parents to let them go to the fair.

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BRER RABBIT AND THE WONDERFUL TAR BABY

The story of Brer Rabbit and Brer Fox told by Danny Glover.

Price £9.99 Catalogue No 690 045 2

CARTOON CARNIVAL (DV)

Classic cartoons from Hanna Barbera. Each time you win a game, collect a letter. When you can spell Cartoon Carnival, you are rewarded with a cartoon in Digital Video.

Price £19.99 Catalogue No 810 016 5

CARTOON JUKEBOX

Favourite tunes such as Pop Goes the Weasel and Row, Row, Row Your Boat.

Price £24.99 Catalogue No 690 001 2

CHILDREN'S MUSICAL THEATRE

Customize your own songs and watch as they are performed by a band of musical animals.

Price £24.99 Catalogue No 690 008 2

DARK FABLES OF AESOP

Twelve of these moral tales narrated by Danny Glover with jazz score by Ron Carter.

Price £24.99 Catalogue No 690 085 2

EMPEROR'S NEW CLOTHES

This version of one of Hans Christian Andersen's best-loved tales is told by Sir John Gielgud.

Price £9.99 Catalogue No 690 042 2

FACE KITCHEN

French chef Uby cooks up some very funny faces. Your job is to choose a combination of lips, eyes and hair and bring the results to life.

Price £29.99 Catalogue No 811 000 2

HOW THE CAMEL GOT HIS HUMP

Rudyard Kipling's popular tale of the lazy camel.

Price £9.99 Catalogue No 690 021 2

HOW THE RHINO GOT HIS SKIN

Another Rudyard Kipling tale, that of a gluttonous rhinoceros who gets his comeuppance.

Price £9.99 Catalogue No 690 023 2

LITTLE MONSTER

Spend a day with Little Monster at home and at school in this interactive version of the popular children's book by kids' author Mercer Mayer.

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MORE DARK FABLES FROM AESOP

Twelve more tales narrated by Danny Glover.

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MOTHER GOOSE HIDDEN PICTURES

An animated activity book combining the pleasures of hearing and seeing nursery rhymes with the added fun of picking objects.

Price £7.99 Catalogue No 690 015 2

MOTHER GOOSE RHYMES TO COLOUR

Mother Goose escorts your children as they wander through their favourite nursery rhymes.

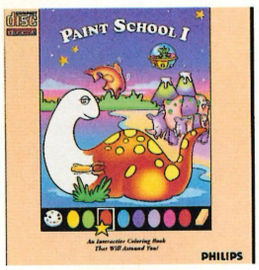
Price £7.99 Catalogue No 690 016 2

PAINT SCHOOL 1

Choose from several hundred scenes to paint or start from scratch and you can draw your own picture. There are a huge variety of colours and palettes available.

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PAINT SCHOOL 2

More pictures to paint using the CDi's enormous colour palette. The magnifying glass allows you to zoom in on the fiddly bits.

Price £19.99 Catalogue No 690 002 2

PECOS BILL

A colourful retelling of the legend of Pecos Bill - the fearless buckaroo. Narration by Robin Williams.

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RICHARD SCARRY'S BUSIEST NEIGHBOURHOOD DISC EVER

Explore the wonderful world of Busytown, a metropolis populated entirely by furry animals.

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RICHARD SCARRY'S BEST NEIGHBOURHOOD DISC EVER

The second in the popular series of Richard Scarry's children's books. Visit the library, the fire station or your home.

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SANDY'S CIRCUS ADVENTURE

Sandy, the cuddly sea lion, is lost in the circus and your child is invited along. Together they can explore all the fun and excitement of the big top.

Price £24.99 Catalogue No 690 022 2

SANTA CLAUS'S MICE

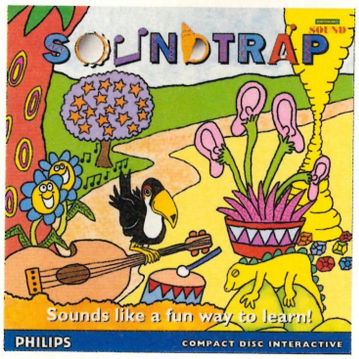
Mice, a clumsy albatross, hard-working gnomes and a kind Santa Claus feature in this Christmas fairy story.

Price £15.99 Catalogue No 811 001 2

SHIPWRECK

Learn about electricity and how it works by completing certain tasks or playing an exciting adventure game.

Price £24.99 Catalogue No 811 002 5



SOUNDTRAP
Second in the series of Two-Can/Epic interactive learning discs. This one explores the creation of diferent sound waves.
Price £24.99 Catalogue No 811 003 2

STORY MACHINE MAGIC TALES
Create your own fairy tales or adventure stories by adding your own scenes, characters, narration and dialogue.
Price £24.99 Catalogue No 690 025 2

STORY MACHINE STAR DREAMS
Star Dreams whisks you away on an intergalactic adventure of your own making. Create your own stories.
Price £24.99 Catalogue No 690 024 2

TELL ME WHY 1
Find out the answers to 175 questions on five topics: Our World, How Things Work, The Zoo, How Things Began and The Human Body.
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TELL ME WHY 2
Another 175 questions answered on the same five topics as in Tell Me Why 1.
Price £7.99 Catalogue 690 004 2

TOM'S MAGIC PICTURE SHOW
Help to enrich your child's English vocabulary and ensure that they make steps in languages such as French and Spanish.
Price £24.99 Catalogue No 811 000 9

WACKY WORLD OF MINIATURE GOLF
A simple golf game with 18 holes to play. First you must key in your name and choose one of 12 characters to represent you.
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 810 013 5

ZOMBIE DINOS FROM PLANET ZELTOID
Dexter the Dinodroid takes you back to the days when dinosaurs ruled the earth.
Price £34.99 Catalogue No 811 001 8

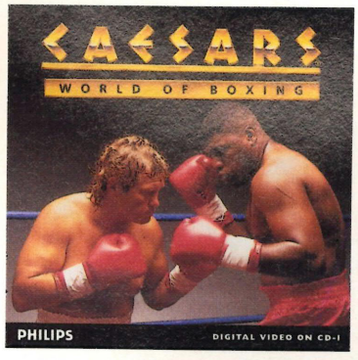
STICKYBEAR MATHS
Children help the Stickybear family succeed in this animated adventure by solving problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division. Children are rewarded with animated adventures as they solve maths problems. **(Aug)**
Price £24.99 Catalogue No 810 006 4

GAMES

ALICE IN WONDERLAND
Roam around Wonderland as you try to solve the rhymes and puzzles that will take you on to the next level of this adventure.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 690 065 2

ALIEN GATE
Hordes of nasty monsters are advancing through the Alien Gate with one objective - the destruction of your world. You must stop them all or risk death.
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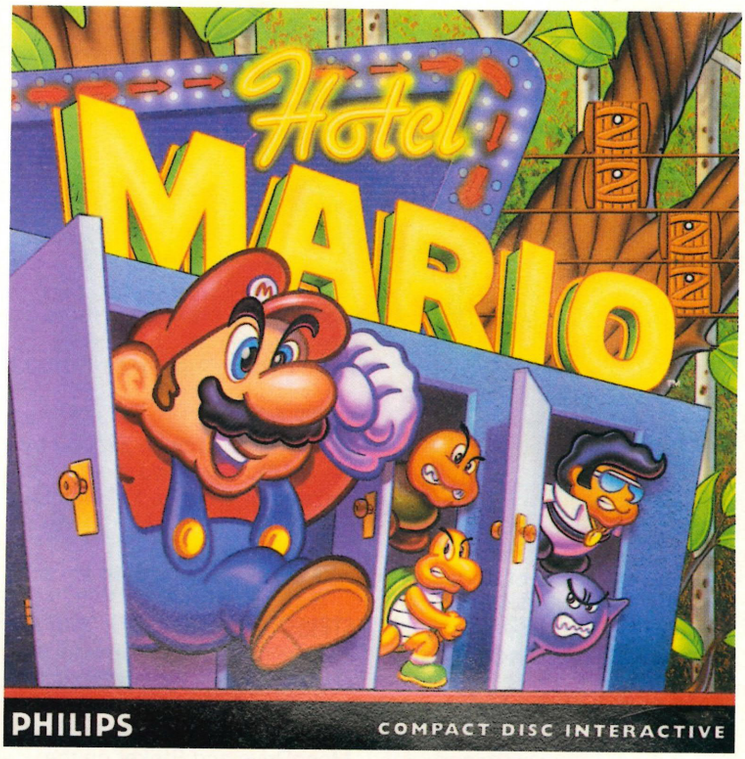
BACKGAMMON
Everything you need to play backgammon on CDi, including three animated opponents each with a different skill level, from beginner to expert.
Price £9.99 Catalogue No 690 039 2



BATTLESHIP
You command a fleet of five ships. Your mission is to seek and destroy your enemy's ships before he destroys yours.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 690 033 2

CAESAR'S WORLD OF BOXING (DV)
Join the boxers, promoters, managers and reporters at Caesar's Palace in Las Vegas. Work your way through the ranks in this two-player game.
Price £49.99 Catalogue No 810 014 3

CAESAR'S WORLD OF GAMBLING
Experience the real sights and sounds of the Caesar's Palace casinos. Learn to play the most popular casino games.
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CD SHOOT
Practice your shooting skill in Sporting, Ball Trap, Olympic Trap and English Skeet, based on international rules.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 811 001 4

CONNECT FOUR
The CDi version of the popular vertical chequers game.
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 690 020 2

DEFENDER OF THE CROWN
The Saxon lords have chosen you to lead them in the fight against the hated Normans. Your skills will be thoroughly tested.
Price £9.99 Catalogue No 690 069 2

DRAGON'S LAIR 1 (DV)
Second in the series of CDi arcade games by Hollywood animation specialist Don Bluth.
Price £49.99 Catalogue No 810 018 1

EARTH COMMAND
Your task is to save the world from impending environmental disaster. By adjusting population growth, taxes and environmental policies you can prevent armagedon - or is it too late?**(August)**
Price £34.99 Catalogue No 810 007 2

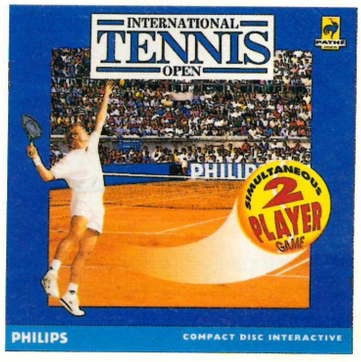
ESCAPE FROM CYBERCITY
Your mission is to survive the dangers of CyberCity, fight your way to the train and destroy the Guardian's planet.
Price £39.99 Catalogue No 690 071 2

HOTEL MARIO
The world's most popular plumber makes his debut on CDi. There are seven different locations and 80 levels to explore as you battle to save the princess of the mushroom kingdom from the evil Bowser.**(June)**
Price £34.99 Catalogue No 810 009 0

INCA
You are the last surviving Inca. To save your race you must journey across space, battling enemies and collecting special powers on the way.
Price £39.99 Catalogue No 810 012 6

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS OPEN - 2 PLAYER
The popular tennis simulation game in two-player version so you can fight to match point against your friends as well as the CDi player.
Price £39.99 Catalogue No 810 008 2

KETHER
You are Melkhor, a space knight, who has to land on Kether and rescue Eta Carene, the Princess of Wisdom. Stunning graphics in this mix of arcade action and puzzle solving.
Price £34.99 Catalogue No 810 012 8





LASER LORDS
Explore alien worlds in the Laser Lords' star cruiser.
Price £39.99 Catalogue No 690 074 2

LINK: FACES OF EVIL
Nintendo characters appear for the first time on CDi. Ganon has captured the island of Koridai and Link must save it from the Faces of Evil.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 810 008 0

LORDS OF THE RISING SUN
A Japanese strategy game on CDi featuring live actors and interesting gameplay.
Price £39.99 Catalogue No 690 098 2

MEGAMAZE
A series of ever more complex mazes will test your wits to the full in this exciting game of skill.
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 810 008 3

MYSTIC MIDWAY R.I.P
The "master of cemetries" Dr Dearth welcomes you to his shooting gallery. 15 targets, ten game levels and the chance to record your score.
Price £34.99 Catalogue No 690 152 2

OTHELLO
Pit your wits against Albert Einstein or Leonardo da Vinci in this electronic version of the popular board game.
Price £24.99 Catalogue No 810 016 3

PALM SPRINGS OPEN
Play 18 of the world's most famous and challenging holes on your own TV. Control "live" golfers on actual courses.
Price £39.99 Catalogue No 690 013 2

PHANTOM EXPRESS
Join Dr Dearth, the Master of Cemetries, on a roller coaster ride in the sequel to Mystic Midway. Phantom Express takes you through the various stages of life in this 3D shooting game.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 810 017 8

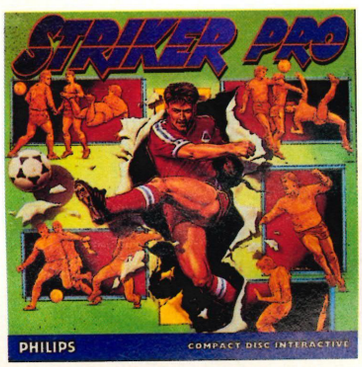
PINBALL
Play four pinball games in your living room without having to feed money into a slot machine.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 690 034 2

POWER HITTER
Baseball challenge which puts you up against the game's great pitchers. The announcer comments on your every move.
Price £34.99 Catalogue No 811 001 7

SARGON CHESS
There are 16 levels of this chess program, or use the special novice level. Experienced players have the pleasure of more advanced levels.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 690 030 2

SPACE ACE (DV)
Space Ace has been zapped by the evil Borf and you must help him defeat the dreaded Infanto Ray and save the earth. Great animation by Don Bluth.
Price £49.99 Catalogue No 810 007 3

STRIKER
The first full soccer game to appear on CDi. Striker Pro is a based on the highly successful Ultimate Soccer on the Sega MegaDrive and Striker on the SNES and Amiga.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 811 004 4



SURF CITY
Sing along to the superb music of the Beach Boys as you explore a typical 1960s beach town in America. **(August)**
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 810 009 1

TANGRAM
Choose from beginner, intermediate or advanced levels of play in this well-known puzzle game.
Price £9.99 Catalogue No 811 001 5

TETRIS
The classic Russian puzzle game featuring ten levels of play and made popular by the ubiquitous Gameboy. Ten CD soundtracks and video backgrounds make this version something special.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 690 188 2

TEXT TILES
A word spelling strategy game for all ages. Use the given words to spell vertically or horizontally.
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 690 043 2

THE 7TH GUEST (DV)
Virgin Games' fabulous mystery adventure game, first released on CD-ROM, is now available on CDi. Simpler to load, with stunning sound and graphics, the CDi version comes complete with CD soundtrack.
Price £49.99 Catalogue No 811 004 0

VIDEO SPEEDWAY
Motor racing game with ten tracks to choose from. The player can race karts, Formula 3000 or Formula 1. Alter your car's dynamics in the pit and then head for the track. Arcade style action gives hours of fun.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 819 001 1

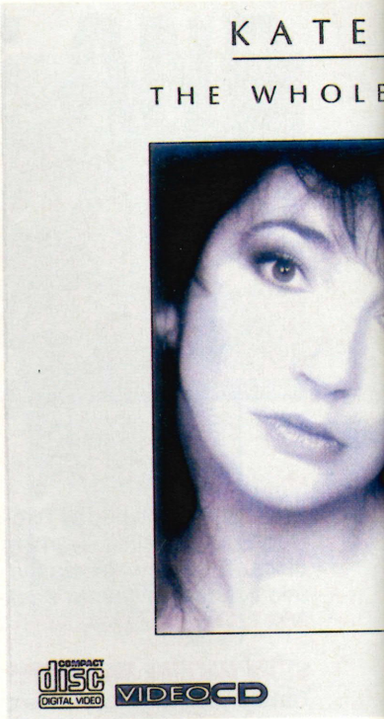
VOYEUR (18)
Adult political whodunnit which combines the suspense of Alfred Hitchcock's Rear Window with an American soap opera. Spy on the house of Presidential character Reed Hawke and his family and find out who the real baddies are.
Price £39.99 Catalogue No 810 016 2

ZELDA: WAND OF GAMELON
The evil Ganon has captured Link and the Triforce. The only way to rescue Link and save the world is to gather all the seven signs of the Tolemac.
Price £ 29.99 Catalogue No 810 009

MUSIC

ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER (DV)
The Premiere Collection from the Lloyd Webber stable includes hits sung by Jason Donovan, Sarah Brightman, Michael Ball and David Essex.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 810 200 1

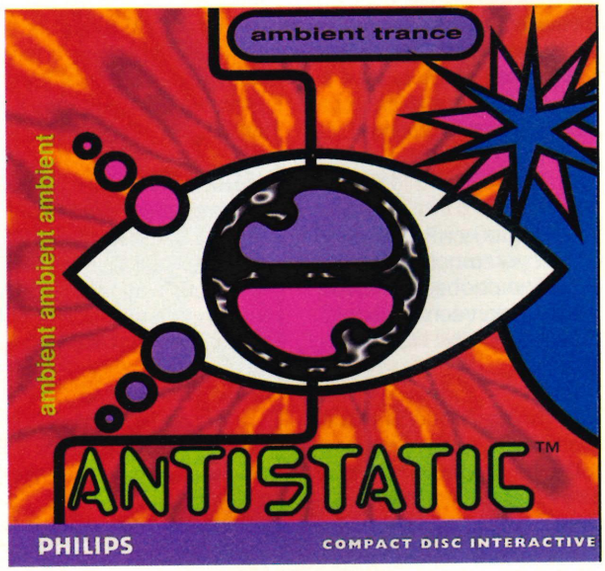
ANTISTATIC
Formerly known as Pulse, the latest psychedelic music disc from Hex features rave visuals and groovy music. Ideal for chilling out in the early hours.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 810 017 0



BRYAN ADAMS (DV)
The Waking Up the Neighbours video from Canadian Bryan Adams comes to CDi in digital stereo and video.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 810 200 2

BON JOVI (DV)
Bon Jovi's Keep the Faith album with full Digital Video to accompany every track.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 810 200 3

CLASSICAL JUKEBOX
Study the lives of 15 of the world's classical composers and listen to their music. Includes 90 minutes of video highlighting facts about their work.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 690 005 2





CREAM OF CLAPTON (DV) The best of Eric Clapton in full Digital Video for fans and casual listeners alike.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 083 862 4

CURE SHOW (DV)
All the wonders of The Cure's music with superb digital stereo sound and DV to match.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 087 742 4

DAVID BOWIE: THE VIDEO COLLECTION (DV/VCD)
A treat for Bowie fans as PMI releases one of the first six music videos on Video CD. **(July)**
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 491 284 2

ESCAPE
Club music and psychedelic visuals brought to you by Hex. Incorporates eight hardcore techno tracks with real-time computer graphics.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 810 011 7

GOLDEN OLDIES JUKEBOX
Jump and jam to the tunes of the 1950s and 1960s. The artists who sing them come alive on your TV screen. Lyrics appear with the music.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 690 006 2

JAMES BROWN
Soul singer Brown performs 13 songs on this CDi music disc. Sing along to your favourite songs with lyrics on screen.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 811 000 6

JAZZ GIANTS
From Big Band to Bossa Nova, experience an interactive jazz journey through 19 great songs.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 690 096 2

KATE BUSH: THE WHOLE STORY '94 (DV/VCD)
Kate has made something of a comeback recently, so enjoy the best of her music on CDi. **(July)**
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 491 288 2

LOUIS ARMSTRONG
Explore the achievements and life story of Louis Armstrong as you listen to his music. Includes rare interviews with the man himself.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 690 031 2

PAVAROTTI
Listen to the world-renowned tenor sing 13 favourite songs while you explore his life story.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 690 040 2

PINK FLOYD: DELICATE SOUND OF THUNDER (DV/VCD)
Two disc set of Pink Floyd with accompanying video to tracks such as One of These Days, On the Run and Shine. **(July)**
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 491 275 2



TINA TURNER: SIMPLY THE BEST '94 (DV/VCD)
Tina Turner compilation album featuring the best of her work. **(July)**
Price £19.99 Catalogue No 491 303 2



PRELUDE
Study the art and music of the era of Post-Impressionism. Incorporates a gallery dedicated to specific painters or styles.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 811 003 8

QUEEN: GREATEST FLIX 1 +2 (DV/VCD)
Freddy Mercury and the boys strut their stuff. Includes a 16 page booklet.
Price £24.99 Catalogue No 491 271 2

STING: TEN SUMMONER'S TALES (DV)
The full album with Digital Video and CD sound. **(August)**
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 089 566 4

THE THREE TENORS (DV)
Pavarotti, Carreras and Domingo in concert for opera lovers.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 071 427 4

THE WORLDS OF....(DV)
Five top bands from the Rhythm King label with Digital Video clips, interviews and your own music mixer.
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TINA TURNER-RIO '88 (DV)
One of rock's great survivors at her sell-out concert in Rio '88. Includes full DV footage of Tina on stage
Price £15.99 Catalogue No: 083 340 4

TODD RUNDGREN: NO WORLD ORDER
One of the first truly interactive music discs which allows you to play DJ by altering the tempo, mood and style of the original tracks on the album.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 810 015 9

INFO & REFERENCE

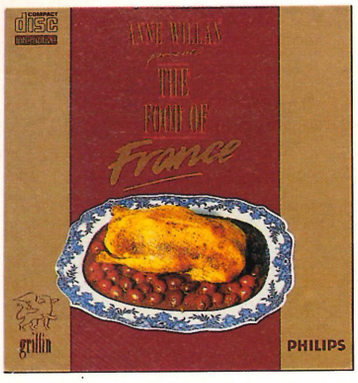
A CHILD IS BORN
A complete childbirth and pregnancy manual based on the stunning photographs of an unborn child by Lennart Nilsson. Provides a detailed look at the whole process of reproduction.
Price £29.99 Catalogue No 810 005 0

ART OF THE CZARS
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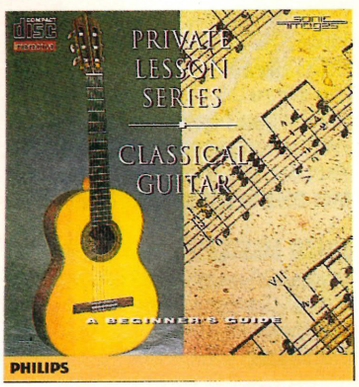
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Michael Douglas and Andy Garcia play New York cops whose job to escort a vicious assassin back to his native Japan leads the two Americans into Osaka's exotic underworld and straight into the centre of a brutal Yakuza gangland battle.
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FATAL ATTRACTION
Michael Douglas plays Dan Gallagher, who has a romantic fling with seductive Alex Forrest (Glenn Close) while his wife



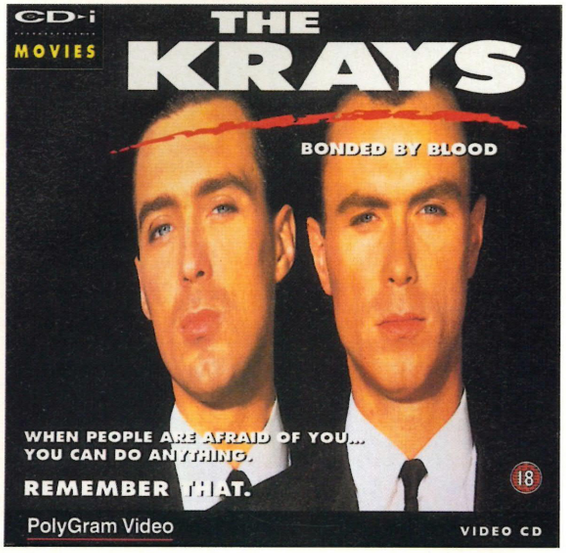
(Anne Archer) is away.
Dan later shrugs off the affair as a mistake and considers it over. But Alex won't be ignored... even if it means destroying Dan's family to keep him.
Includes a special epilogue of the original ending, never shown in the cinema.
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GHOST
Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore star as a loving couple split apart when he falls victim to a hit that goes badly wrong.
A mixture of fantasy, thriller and comedy with Whoopi Goldberg milking it for all it's worth.
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INDECENT PROPOSAL (DV/VCD)
Demi Moore and Woody Harrelson play the happy couple who suddenly find their marriage under pressure when, just as they are in danger and in need of extra money, the wealthy and handsome Robert Redford makes the ultimate offer.
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THE NAKED GUN (DV/VCD)
Leslie Nielsen, king of the spoof, moves from the small screen of TV's Police Squad and lands a starring role in Naked Gun as the incompetent cop Frank Debin





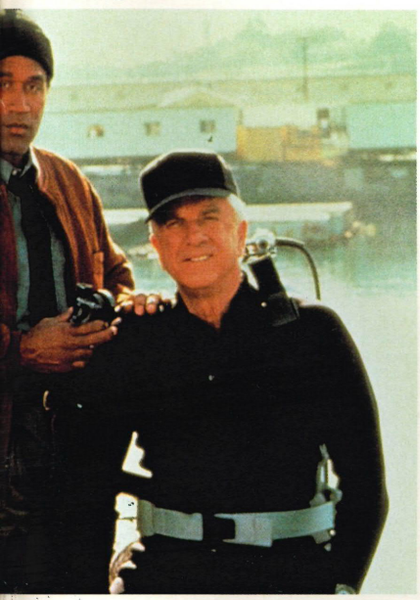
who is out to foil an assassination attempt on the Queen during a visit to LA.**(August)**
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NAKED GUN 2 1/2

Lt. Frank Drebin (Leslie Nielsen) loves a mystery.
Drebin tackles the big issues - and the biggest of all is how to stop devious Quentin Hapsburg's (Robert Goulet) plan to destroy the environment.
Returning with Nielsen in this hilarious Naked Gun sequel are Priscilla Presley, George Kennedy and O J Simpson.
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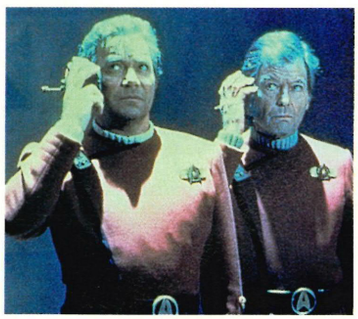
PATRIOT GAMES

His days as an intelligence agent behind him, former CIA analyst Jack Ryan (Harrison Ford) has travelled to London with his wife (Anne Archer) and child.
Meeting his family outside Buckingham Palace, Ryan is caught in the middle of a terrorist attack on a member of the Royal family. Soon Ryan must return to action for the most vital assignment of his life: to save his family. Co-starring James Earl Jones.
Price: £15.99 Catalogue No 811 100 4



STAR TREK VI

The Enterprise leads a battle for peace in the most spectacular Star Trek adventure ever!
At the peace summit, a Klingon ship is attacked and the Enterprise is held accountable.
The dogs of war are unleashed again, and both worlds brace for what might be their final, deadly encounter. Starring William Shatner, Leonard Nimoy and DeForest Kelley.
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THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER

A new, technologically superior Soviet nuclear submarine, The Red October, is heading for the US under the command of Captain Marko Ramius (Sean Connery).
The US government thinks Ramius is planning to attack. A lone CIA analyst (Alec Baldwin) thinks Ramius is planning to defect, but he has only a few hours to find him and prove it.
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A romantic thriller-cum-black comedy which follows the often complex lives of those in the IRA. Forest Whittaker plays the black army soldier Jody, who is unwittingly kidnapped by Jude and is later shot and killed while trying to escape.**(July)**
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Pop duo Gary and Martin Kemp give very believable performances as the infamous East End gangsters of the 1960s, Ronnie and Reggie Kray.
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A FISH CALLED WANDA (DV/VCD)

Starring John Cleese and Jamie Lee Curtis. An American girl, Wanda, comes to London to steal some diamonds with Otto. Things go seriously wrong when English barrister (Cleese) and Wanda meet, and Otto starts to get jealous. **(Aug)**
Price £17.99 Catalogue No 811 200 3



TOP GUN

Top Gun takes a look at the danger and excitement that awaits every pilot at the Navy's prestigious fighter weapons' school.
Tom Cruise is superb as Maverick Mitchell.
Kelly McGillis sizzles as the civilian instructor who teaches Maverick a few things you can't learn in the classroom.
Price £15.99 Catalogue No 811 100 1

WAYNE'S WORLD

Based on characters created for America's hugely popular Saturday Night Live (the show that gave us such stars as the late John Belushi, Billy Crystal, and Steve Martin, the film is about a (very) small (very) local TV station run from a basement by two metalhead no-hopers Wayne and Garth.
Everything is going just fine until one day along comes a network TV producer with offers of fame and lots of money.Romantic interest is provided by Tia Carrere.
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SLIVER (DV/VCD)

Starring Sharon Stone and William Baldwin, Carly (Stone) moves to a high rise apartment which was previously inhabited by a woman who looked like her, and commited suicide for no apparent reason. Shortly after moving in her next door neighbour is murdered and she begins to suspect that her own life is in peril. **(Aug)**
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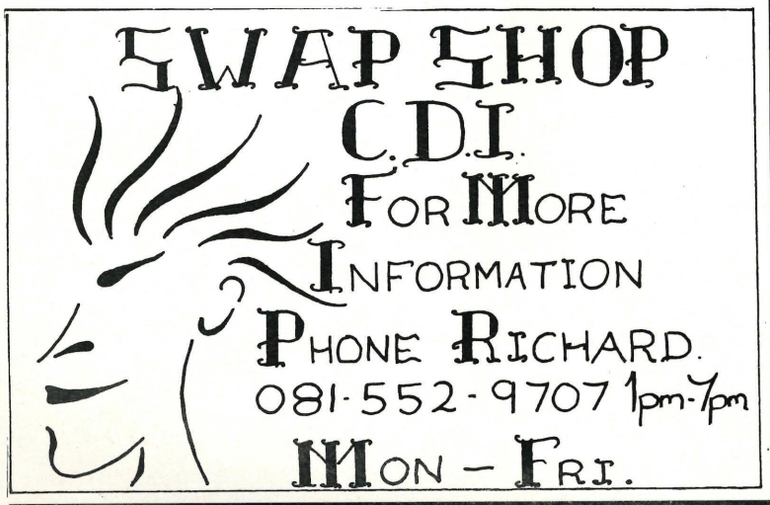
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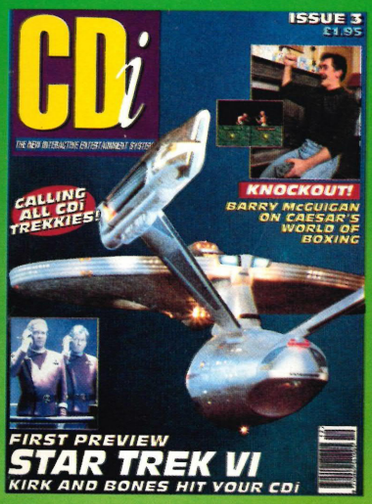






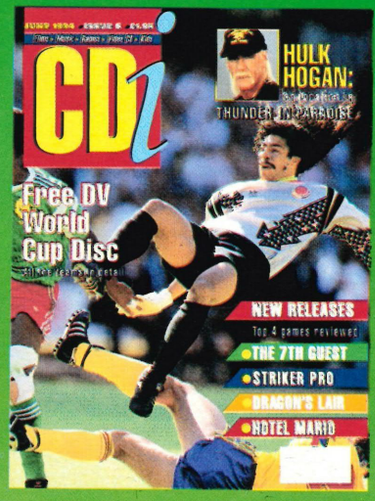
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INTERVIEW David McElhatten of PIMA
INSIGHT The Making of The Joy of Sex

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HINTS Laser Lords Pt 1, Link Pt 2

ISSUE 6

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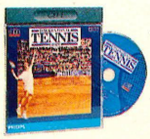
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