APRIL 1995 • ISSUE 11 • £2.25
Films • Music • Games • Video CD • Kids

CDi

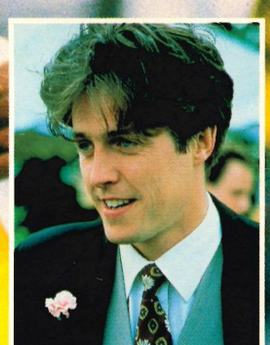


2 UNLIMITED
Exclusive interview!

NFL Special
We review three great CDi American football discs

TOP MOVIES COMING SOON

- FOUR WEDDINGS & A FUNERAL





- STAR TREK I + II

GAMES PREVIEWS

- MICRO MACHINES
- MERLIN'S APPRENTICE
- KINGDOM: THE FAR REACHES

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INFOGRAMES

CD-ROM CD-i

PHILIPS

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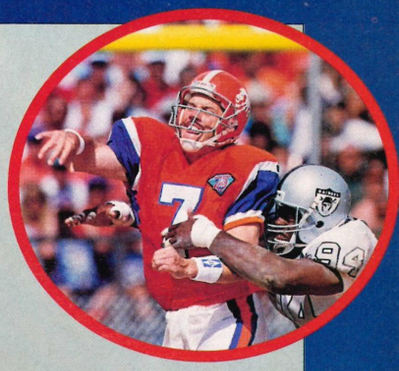
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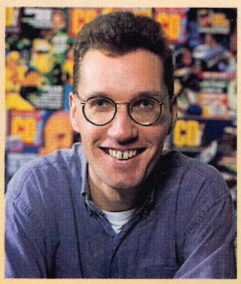
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Try your hand at American football with the CDi NFL Hall of Fame game



We've got a real treat in store for you in this issue; reviews of two fantastic music discs which show just what can be done with CDi if the system is used to its full potential.

The music industry remains highly dubious about interactive music titles and has still to embrace multimedia technology with any real enthusiasm. But the latest discs from *2 Unlimited* and *The The* show what can be done, even when taking a fairly simple approach to the format.

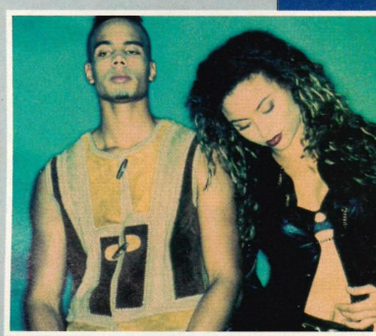
With *2 Unlimited's* title "Beyond Limits", you can listen to the audio tracks on a conventional CD player or, if you have a CDi player, find out more about the band using the interactive hotspots.

"Beyond Limits" may not have the overall sophistication of, say, Peter Gabriel's "Xplora 1", but it shows how interactive technology can be used to give fans more than they currently get with a standard audio CD. These so-called CD Plus discs, which contain standard audio CD tracks plus additional interactive information, are surely the way forward.

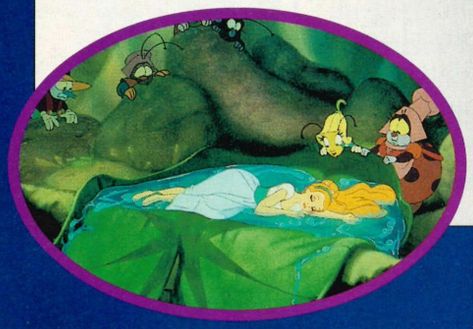
2 Unlimited's Ray Slijngaard reckons audio-only CDs will be obsolete in ten year's time. I reckon he's right. And if you look at the latest Video CD offering from *The The*, classic albums can really be brought to life using MPEG video to go with the music.

The music industry should welcome, not fear, this opportunity to repackage existing albums in a new format, the way it did when audio CD was invented.

Andy Clough,
Editor

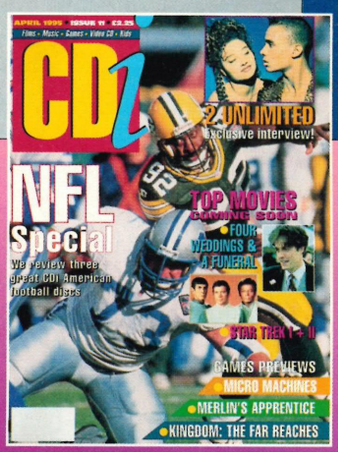


Ray and Anita of 2 Unlimited take you on an interactive tour of their album "Beyond Limits"



Thumbelina will be arriving soon on Video CD, and there's a great interactive CDi too!

COVER
Cover designed by Ursula Morgan. Main image Copyright: Allsport UK Ltd



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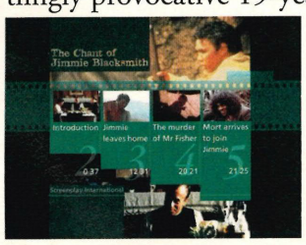
CLASSIC FILMS FROM ART HOUSE PRODUCTIONS

Art House Productions has teamed up with software company OmniMedia to release a series of classic films on the Video CD format.

The first four films, due out on May 8, will be distributed through VCI Software. They are: "One Deadly Summer", "The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith", "The Navigator", and "La Grande Illusion".

"These classic movies are brought to life by Video CD," says Leslie Kent, OmniMedia's managing director. "VHS tape degrades rapidly, while Video CD offers permanent storage. Thoroughbred films such as these are watched repeatedly, making Video CD the ideal format."

"One Deadly Summer" features Isabel Adjani in her first starring role, as an unsettlingly provocative 19-year old. She arrives in a small French village and sets the local manhood afire with lust and rumour. But soon we discover she's out for revenge.



"The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith", written by "Schindler's List" author Thomas Kenneally, is the true story of Jimmie Blacksmith, the Aborigine member of a small Australian farming community who is pushed into violence by racism.



"The Navigator" is an epic tale of a plague-threatened Middle Ages village and its quest for redemption, which results in an unexpected encounter with the modern world.

"La Grande Illusion" is Jean Renoir's classic anti-war comedy/drama. It was thought to have been completely destroyed until a print was found in Munich in 1945. It has now been preserved forever in Video CD's digital format.

All the discs will cost £14.99, except for "One Deadly Summer" which will sell at £17.99.

For further information, please call VCI Distribution on 01923 816511

PHILIPS CLUBLINE



Philips has unveiled details of its telephone Clubline service for CDi owners and users.

When you ring the Clubline, you will be offered a number of options: a competition, which changes on a regular basis; hints and tips on selected CDi titles; sneak previews of forthcoming releases; and questions and answers. The same service is offered for CD-ROM titles.

If you are interested in hints and tips on CDi games, just follow the CDi route into that section. Not all games published on CDi are on the Clubline, but you can leave a question referring to any title which will be answered within 48 hours.

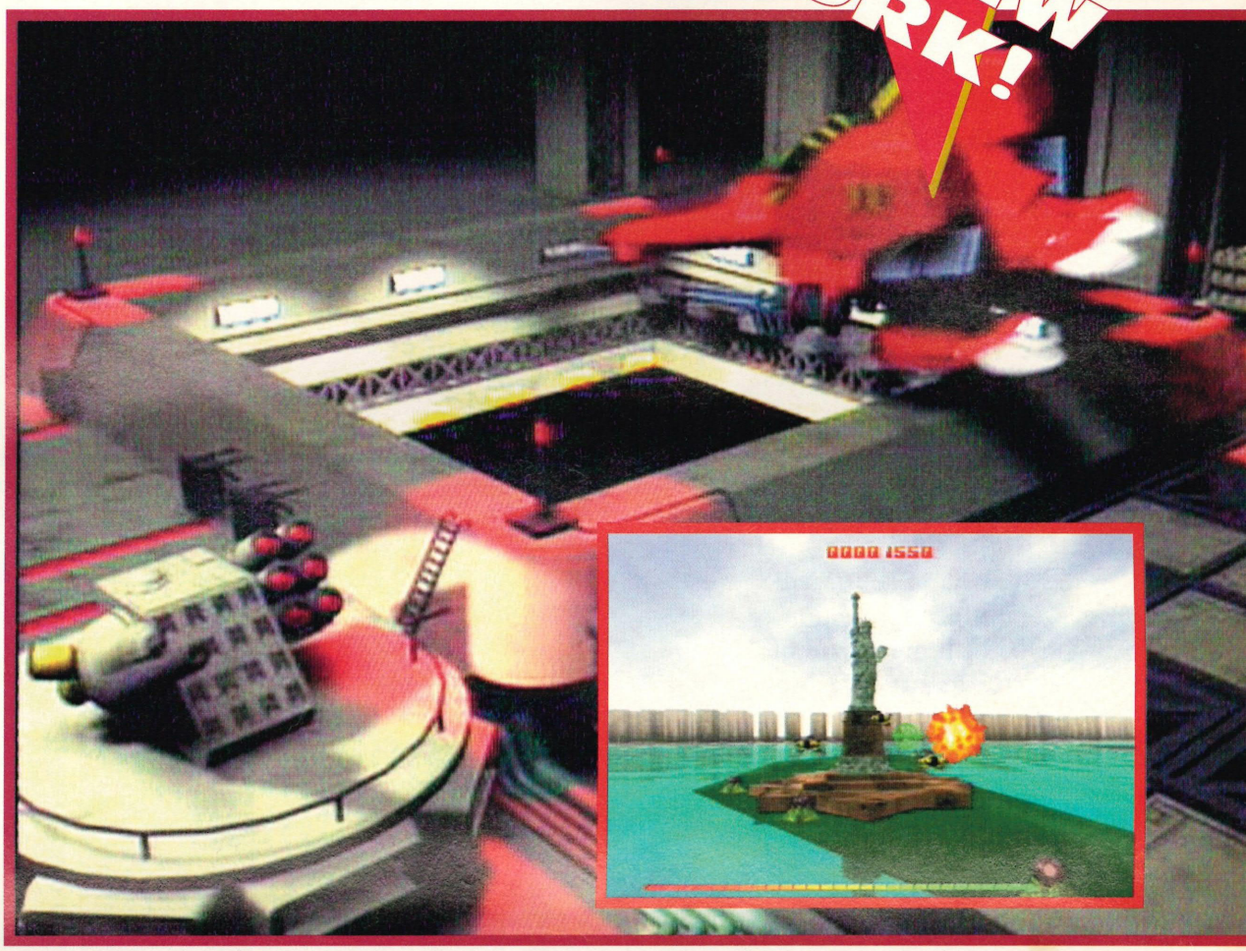
The specific CDi player's guides currently on the Clubline are as follows: Burn:Cycle, Dragon's Lair I and II, Space Ace, Litil Divil, Zelda - Wand of

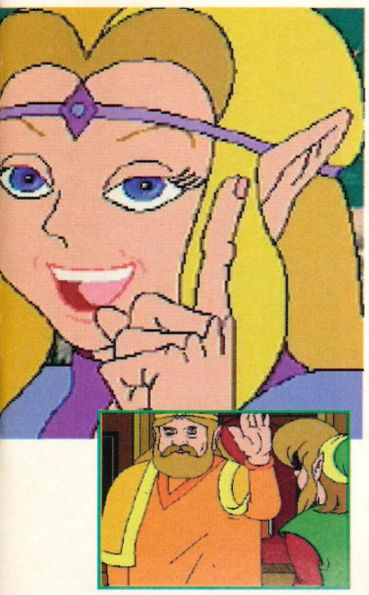


CHAOS CONTROL CHALLENGE

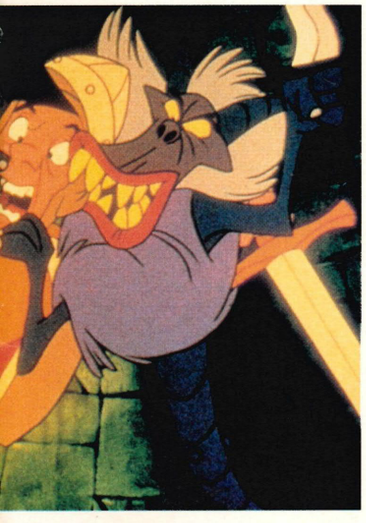


WIN A TRIP TO NEW YORK!





Gamelon, and Link - Faces of Evil.
Future titles to be added are Lost Eden and Flashback, with more to follow later this year.
Calls cost 39p per minute at cheap rate, 49p at all other times. The maximum possible cost of your call is £3.68. After a maximum of 7 1/2 minutes on the line, it will cut off. To continue the call, you must be 18 or over and get permission from the person paying the bill. The number to call is 0891 244424. Please do not call CDi Magazine.



Future Zone and Philips are offering you the chance to win a fabulous trip to New York by entering a simple but exciting CDi challenge.

All you have to do is go to one of 20 participating Future Zone stores during the Easter holidays (April 11-13) and enter the Chaos Control Challenge. Entrants should go to the participating store on the date and time advertised (see box) and play Chaos Control, the fast and furious science fiction shoot-'em-up, for one minute. As a fighter pilot in Earth's special defence force, you have the power to halt the alien hordes. The more aliens you shoot, the more points you score. The highest scorer in each store will win a Chaos Control T-shirt. The top five scorers nationwide will win a trip to London for the grand finale to be held in May at Future Zone's Oxford Street store. The ultimate winner will receive a free trip to the Big Apple.

Stores running the competition are as follows:

Aberdeen (12 April 3-5pm)
Ashford (11 April 10-12noon)
Bedford (11 April 3-5pm)
Birmingham (Pallasades 12 April 3-5pm)
Brighton (12 April 3-5pm)
Bristol (11 April 3-5pm)
Cardiff (12 April 3-5pm)
Crawley (12 April 10-12noon)
Eastbourne (11 April 3-5pm)
Edinburgh (11 April 3-5pm)
Exeter (11 April 10-12 noon)
Gateshead (11 April 10-12 noon)
Glasgow (11 April 10-12 noon)
Leeds (12 April 3-5pm)
Leicester (12 April 10-12 noon)
London (Oxford Street 11 April 10-12 noon)
Manchester (11 April 3-5pm)
Nottingham (12 April 3-5pm)
Sheffield (Meadowhall 12 April 10-12 noon)
Worcester (13 April 10-12 noon)

NEW TITLES FROM PMI

Picture Music International, part of EMI Records, will release its next batch of Video CDs in May/June. The forthcoming titles are from the Pet Shop Boys, Iron Maiden, Beastie Boys, Nigel Kennedy, Duran Duran and Cliff Richard.

The company has also released the re-encoded versions of its first five Video CD music titles. The five titles, first released last year, have been digitally re-mastered and re-encoded to provide quality and functional improvements. The five titles are: Queen "Greatest Flix I and II"; David Bowie "The Video Collection"; Pink Floyd "Delicate Sound of Thunder"; Tina Turner "Simply The Best"; and Kate Bush "The Whole Story '94". During the last few months, PMI has embarked on a rigorous programme of improvements.

PMI managing director Martin Haxby says: "We have made a number of improvements to our Video CDs. The sound quality



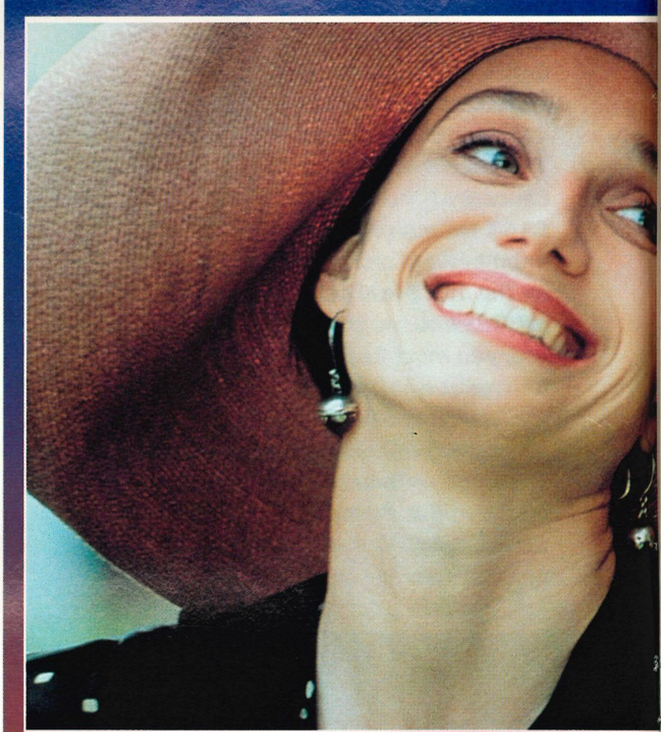
is superb and we have reduced the number of visual artefacts. We have also improved the overall look and feel of the titles."

The so-called Version 1.2 discs now have smooth fades between tracks, redesigned main menu icons, quicker scrolling through the track listing, a help section in English, French, German and Spanish and a quicker rewind and fast forward operations. You can also move the video image manually for a perfectly centred full screen picture. For further details, contact the PMI Video CD Helpline on 01494 471150.

TOP STORES BACK CDi



The number of retail outlets stocking CDi has been boosted by the news that leading retailers John Menzies and Game are to stock the system. Game is offering a bundle for £399 which includes the Philips 450 player with Digital Video cartridge and five titles: Burn:Cycle, The 7th Guest, Compton's Encyclopedia, International Tennis Open and Star Trek VI. The bundle will be available at all 40 Game stores nationwide.



POLYGRAM COLLECTION

PolyGram will release a collection of five Video CD titles on April 10. The titles will include the smash hit "Four Weddings and A Funeral", starring Hugh Grant, which will be available this month at £19.99.

The four other titles are: "Making Love", "Portion of Jethro", "Roy Chubby Brown — Helmet's Last Stand" and "Leslie Nielsen — Bad Golf Made Easier". The latter four titles will retail at £17.99.

JAZZ GREATS MAKE THEIR DEBUT ON VIDEO CD

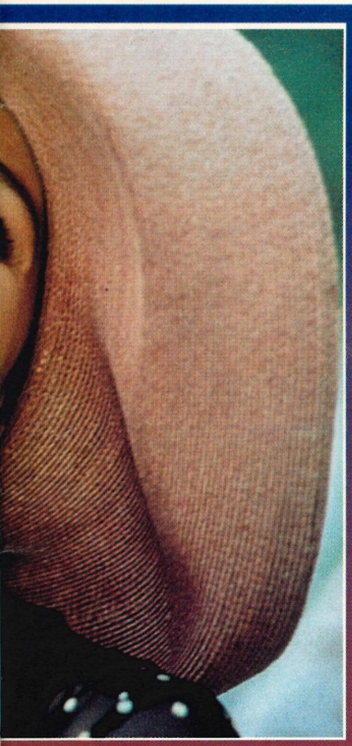
Video CD publisher CD Vision is planning to add three jazz discs to its expanding catalogue of titles. They will be released on April 10.

The three titles are: "Georgie Fame and The Blue Flames," "Count Basie — Swingin' The Blues" and "Eartha Kitt — The Most Exciting Woman in the World". All will be encoded to the White Book Video CD format.

Georgie Fame's talent as an organist found chart success in 1964 with a UK number one, "Yeh, Yeh". His jazzy delivery made this record one of the decade's classic songs. His other hits included "Get Away" and "The Ballad of Bonnie and Clyde".

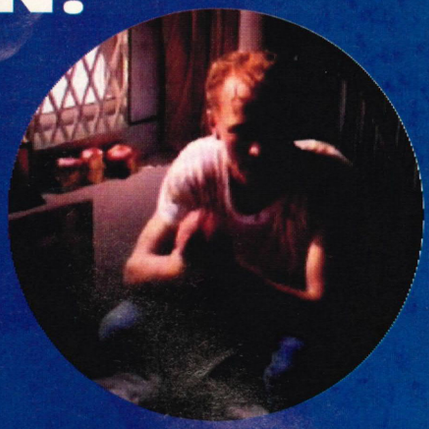
The Count Basie disc features interviews with Basie's friends and band members. Footage varies from the late 1930s through to the master recordings of the best Basie sessions. Eartha Kitt is featured from her early years in the New Faces Broadway revues in the 1950s to her musicals and one-woman shows. Further details from CD Vision on 0171 240 7764.





Above:
Kristin Scott-Thomas in Four Weddings and A Funeral

COMING SOON!
FORTHCOMING RELEASES



APRIL 28

Video CD	
Four Weddings & A Funeral	*£19.99*
The The: Infected	*£17.99*
Games	
Merlin's Apprentice	*£29.99*

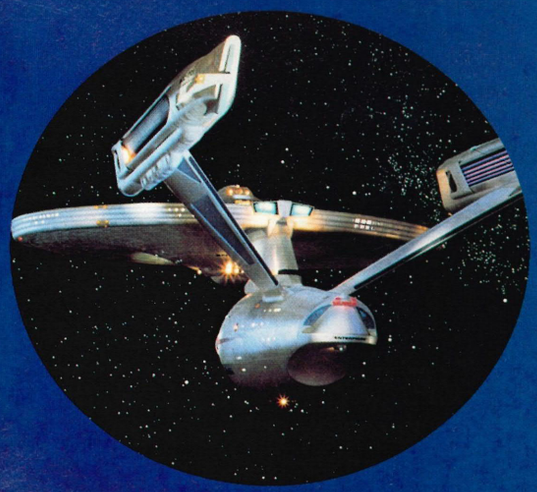


MAY 5

Xplora 1: Peter Gabriel's Secret World	*£39.99*

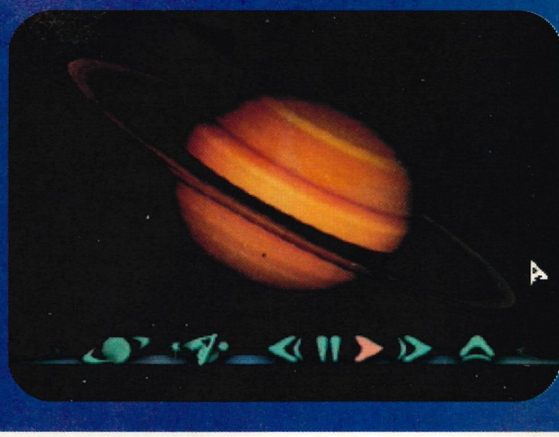
MAY 12

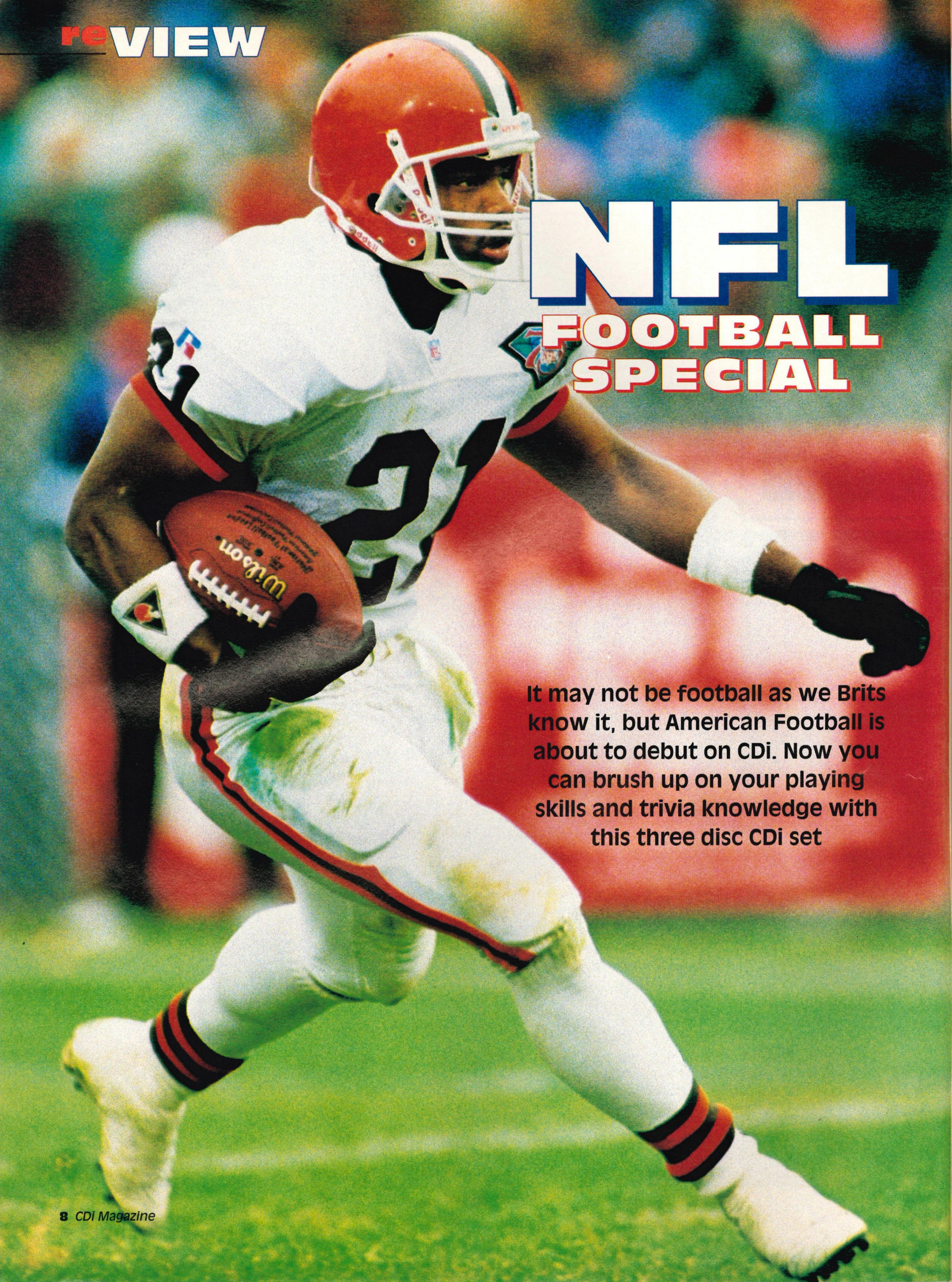
Games	
NFL Ultimate American Football (three pack)	*£39.99*
Video CD	
Raging Bull	*£17.99*
Terms of Endearment	*£17.99*
Opera Imaginaire	*£19.99*
Music	
Headcrash/Antistatic/eScape (three pack)	*£29.99*
Reference	
Solar System	*£29.99*



MAY 26

Video CD	
Chitty Chitty Bang Bang	*£17.99*
Thumbelina	*£17.99*
Star Trek 1	*£17.99*
Star Trek 2	*£17.99*
Officer and A Gentleman	*£17.99*
Jeeves & Wooster - series 1 (two disc set)	*£TBA*
Games	
What's It Worth?	*£24.99*
Reference	
Wines of France	*£TBA*
Kids	
Tim & Bear At The Airport	*£TBA*



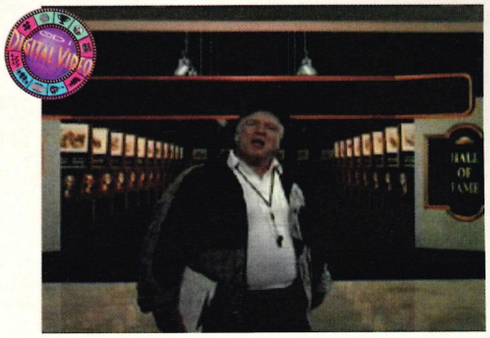


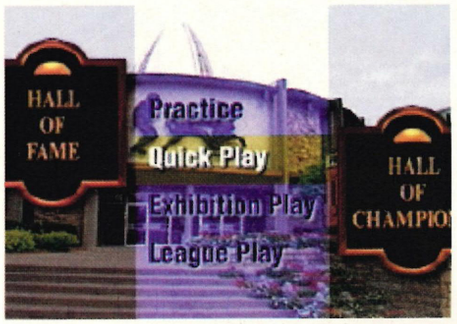
NFL FOOTBALL SPECIAL

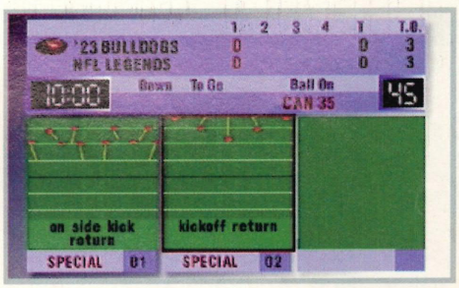
It may not be football as we Brits know it, but American Football is about to debut on CDi. Now you can brush up on your playing skills and trivia knowledge with this three disc CDi set

NFL HALL OF FAME

by Laurie Yates







Top: Tom Finnegan is your genial host at the NFL Hall of Fame. He will guide you to the three games options on the menu

American football fans have already celebrated the 75th anniversary of the NFL — the oldest and largest pro football organisation — and now Philips's NFL Hall of Fame on CDi offers a timely treat for pigskin partisans and historians alike.

While most interactive football products either tackle football action or gridiron data, Hall of Fame blends both in an entertaining value-added program.

The opening footage comprises an eye-popping establishing shot of a football stadium followed by a camera pan to the front of the Canton, Ohio Professional Football Hall of Fame. This stunning sequence begins with grainy-looking black and white footage of the field, morphs into sparkling, full-colour realism — courtesy of some state-of-the-art texture-mapped polygons — and eventually resolves into an MPEG-driven full motion video view of the hall.

Outside the Hall of Fame entrance, a gritty, no-nonsense coach — played by Tom Finnegan — greets users and shepherds them to the main menu, where three options are available: a two-part tour of the Hall of Fame or, for the more physically-oriented types, a chance to play with some of the sports' great names.

The Hall of Fame is divided into the Hall itself, which features 145 gridiron greats (complete with still photos and video bites); and the Hall of Champions, showcasing 40 of the game's finest teams (unfortunately, even recent teams are represented by a single team photo with a brief audio overview).

In the game module, the top-down perspective is solid, if uninspired. One or two players select among Quick Play, Exhibition and League modes. Quick Play assigns pre-set Dream Teams and offensive/defensive plans, with the gamer opting to coach or play.

Exhibition — a single game scenario — permits player recruitment. Users selct a team name and helmet logo; then determine home or visitor status. If any of the legends don't make your cut, they are replaceable.

Armchair coaches can also modify both the five pre-set offensive and three pre-fabricated defensive game plans. League Play permits players to set up an entire season, leading to a silicon Super Bowl. The graphics range from the spectacular DV footage to more ordinary-looking character sprites. The game is displayed from a top-down perspective — a point-of-view that has been out of fashion since EA Sports introduced "Madden Football" almost half a decade ago. But with the CDi's enhanced sprite animations, the bird's-eye view makes for a nice change of pace and provides very satisfying gameplay.

The sound, meanwhile, is great; speech is clear and well-modulated, and the ambient sound effects capture the stadium atmosphere with impressive fidelity.

For football-loving CDi owners, "NFL Football Hall of Fame" offers both a data base and some entertaining simulation play.

Produced by Philips POV

RATINGS

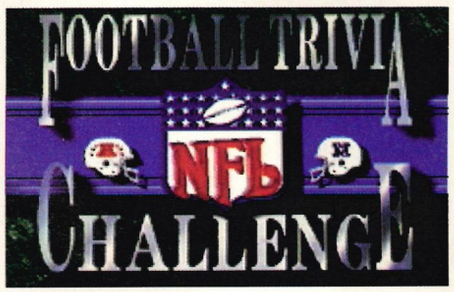
Graphics: 84%

Sound: 93%

Interactivity: 85%

Overall: 90%

Cost: £39.99 (3 pack) **Out: May 12**



NFL TRIVIA CHALLENGE 1994-1995

by Andy Stout

There are two things you really need to get the maximum enjoyment out of this disc. First off, a CDi player helps. Secondly, some sort of rudimentary knowledge of American Football tends to come in handy.

Ahem, whoops. Confession time: I know about as much about American Football as I do about flow dynamics in the Earth's mantle. I've heard about it, I know it exists, but when it comes to details, I'm a little hazy. Cricket or motor racing, fine; American Football, nada. I

Right: each question is accompanied by a small video clip. Below: choose a skill level from Rookie to Pro by clicking on the football shirt



know there's a team in Dallas called the Cowboys and there's a famous quarterback called Joe Montana, but there the sum total of my wisdom runs out.

So I approached this title with some trepidation. Would I be out of my depth? Would it leave me scratching my head in bewilderment? In fact, this is a highly enjoyable quiz. It could have been boring, tedious, dull, monotonous and lots of other words you can find in the thesaurus under "uninteresting". OK, so I probably recorded one of the lowest scores in NFL Trivia Challenge history, but Goddamit, it was still fun. Spooky.

So what then is it that makes this game so enjoyable? Simply put, it's atmosphere. Trivia Challenge has more atmosphere than your average sized planet. Oodles and oodles of the stuff, in fact.

Much of the atmosphere is provided by the two commentators who continually gasbag throughout the game. During any pause in the action they prognosticate on probable tactics, where the team is going wrong, the way the team is performing and so on. It is the equivalent of buying a driving game and the first thing you hear is Murray Walker screaming out of your speakers.

The quiz has been set up to mirror an actual game of American Football as closely as possible. From the locker room screen you pick your own team from either of the two conferences and set a skill level which ranges from Rookie to Pro (the latter is a level for complete masochists or people who watch the game intravenously). Then you start.

The idea is, not surprisingly, to leg it down the pitch and score a touchdown, or failing that at least to kick a field goal. You start off in possession, click on a button and the questions start. You have 15 seconds to answer the multiple choice questions. The amount of time left on the clock when you get the right answer is directly translated into yardage — ie five seconds equals five yards. All the normal first down and ten stuff applies. Get a question wrong and you proceed to the next down. Fail to make ten yards and the opposition gets the ball. Pretty easy, huh?

Meanwhile, while you're doing all this, the commentators are bickering in the background, occasionally breaking off to ask you a question. Will he run, will he punt, my God, what is he playing at? These guys obviously get paid by the word.

How many questions are there on the disc? I've no idea, but I suspect it's a lot. All the images are stills, so you don't need the Digital Video cartridge for this one. As a non-expert, NFL Trivia Challenge was very enjoyable. Real fans will probably perform highly illegal and morally questionable acts to get hold of it.

Produced by CapDisc

RATINGS

Graphics: 80%

Sound: 85%

Interactivity: 83%

Overall: 87%

Cost: £39.99 (3 pack) **Out: May 12**

NFL 100 GREATEST TOUCHDOWNS

by Jason Alesi

Aha, so that's what O J Simpson did before the trial. The astute among you will have already noticed that this disc of the NFL three pack features the greatest touchdowns in NFL history. If you're really on the ball, you might even have deduced that there are 100 of them, too. Nothing like a nice, descriptive title to prevent customer confusion.

During the history of the NFL,

which stretches back to the 1920s, more than 9000 games have been played. In those 9000 games, 41,000 touchdowns have been scored, an average of 4.55 per game. Keeping with the statistical theme for a moment, that also means that only about one in 400 touchdowns is considered truly great. Which then goes to prove you'd have to go to 88 games to see something worthy of the accolade. Sod's law being what it is, the one game you missed would be the one with all the best touchdowns.



But help is at hand. This disc, hosted by Steve Sabol, is a trawl through some of the greatest moments in American Football history. NFL Films polled football writers across the country to get their nominations, and this collection of touchdowns is the result.

Some are included because of their sheer skill, others due to the intervention of utter fluke, others because they turned a whole season on its head. However they got on the disc, they are all full-screen Digital Video and the quality of the encoding is excellent.

You'll find a host of 90 yard rushes and players turning, ducking and weaving their way through every imaginable obstacle.

Sometimes it boggles the mind to realise that the bloke who has just performed a perfect, dancing pirouette and then sprinted up the pitch like Linford Christie with a ferret down his trousers weighs about 18 stone and has thighs like tug boats.

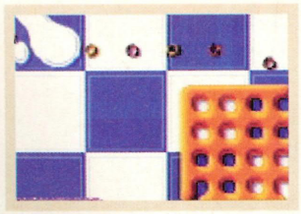
Then there are the passes; the bladder arcing its way through the stadium air, spinning on its axis, until a receiver leaps from out of nowhere amid a tangle of bodies and snatches it into the endzone.

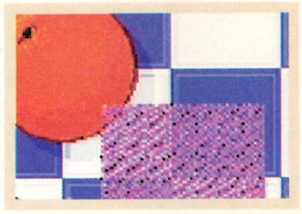
Highlights (apart from the infamous Immaculate Reception and a host of Joe Montana clips) include the player knocked unconscious by running into the human equivalent of a granite cliff face. While he's on the ground dreaming of the pixies and his team mates gather round to see if he's OK, an enterprising opponent scoops up the lose ball and legs it into the endzone. Best of all, though, is the bloke running at a line backer who, not fancying getting the wind knocked out of him, flicks his body up into the air and somersaults over him to score.

Rugby fans will watch this and scream "go for the bloody legs" at the defence. Everyone else will watch and wince at the general mayhem. Whichever, it's a lot cheaper than having to sit through 88 games to see some real inspiration.

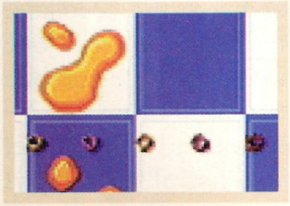
Produced by NFL Films Inc '93
Ratings: ☆☆☆
Cost: £39.99 (3 pack)
Available: May 12











MICRO MACHINES

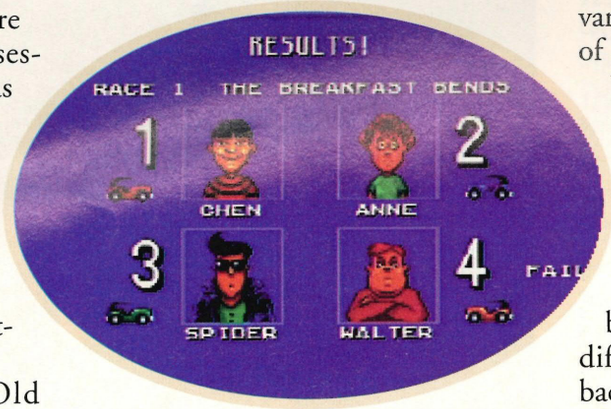
Micro Machines, one of the most playable racing games of all time, revs up for CDi. ANDY STOUT takes the wheel

Imagine the scene: a software company's brainstorming session to come up with ideas for a new computer game. All the normal stuff occurs. RPGs are discussed, beat-'em-ups toyed with, platform games dissected under a microsocope. Nothing seems particularly exciting, so everyone in the meeting legs it down to the pub.

After the fifth pint of Old Peculiar, three people are having a beermat tossing competition, two are beating up the pub quiz machine and another two have discovered they've both fancied each other for ages. Suddenly, someone shouts "Eureka!" (actually it sounds like "Thurrppkt") and starts scribbling on the back of an envelope.

Micro Machines just *has* to have been created like that: either in a moment of drunken inspiration or with the judicious use of recreational substances that we really can't talk about in a magazine like this. The result is a real corker of a game.

The concept is ludicrously simple: an overhead racing game around household objects. Miniature cars race around pool tables, through marmalade, around cornflakes and in bathtubs. If there is a place to race, Micro Machines are there.



This gives the game added humour value. The courses really have character, and trying to explain to your friends that the reason you are so annoyed is because you crashed out by colliding with an open exercise book and fell off the edge of a desk isn't the easiest thing in the world to do. But not only is it amusing, it's also one of the most ridiculously playable games ever foisted on the market.

It's definitely a classic. Pick up the controller and you're away. But if you're going to be any good at it, you will have to learn all the turns and hazards of the various courses.

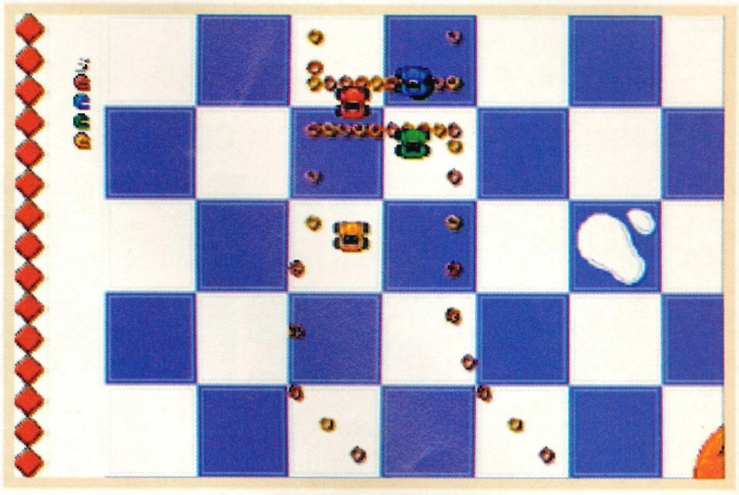
There are one and two player options. The one player game is probably the best, where you challenge the other computer-controlled drivers in different vehicles over a variety of courses. Be warned, some of these — particularly the Formula 1 courses set around the pool tables — are very difficult. There is a head-to-head option where you lose lives if your opponent gets a screen length ahead of you around the course.

The critical thing to remember is that each vehicle handles differently. The sportscars lose the back end outrageously and skid out of control on tight bends. The warriors have lousy acceleration, but once they get going, probably reach something close to Warp Factor 10. For every mode of transport involved, you need to adopt a slightly different driving style.

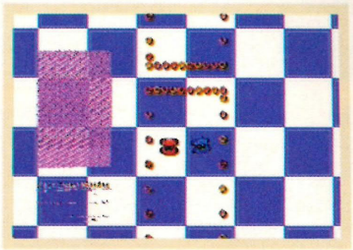
This game was a huge hit when it first came out. Just so it doesn't rest on its laurels, the CDi version will have specially enhanced features. There will be 48 full motion video animated race sequences that morph into actual gameplay; in-game graphics improved to support 256 colours; and digital CD music enhanced from the classic MegaDrive themes. Now if that doesn't get you salivating, then you've got no *soul.*

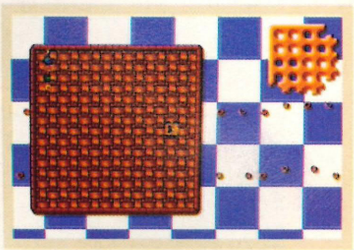
Produced by Codemasters
Available: TBA Cost: TBA


Micro Machines
SELECT GAME
ONE PLAYER
TWO PLAYER
Challenge / Head to Head
Head to Head
exit



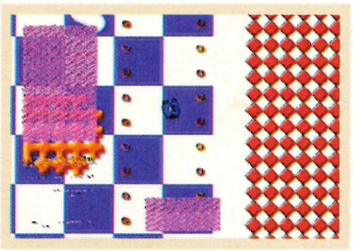

TOYOTA
Castrol
2
Castrol
CIBIE
MICHELIN

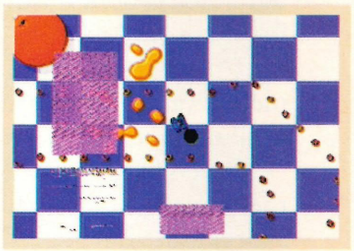


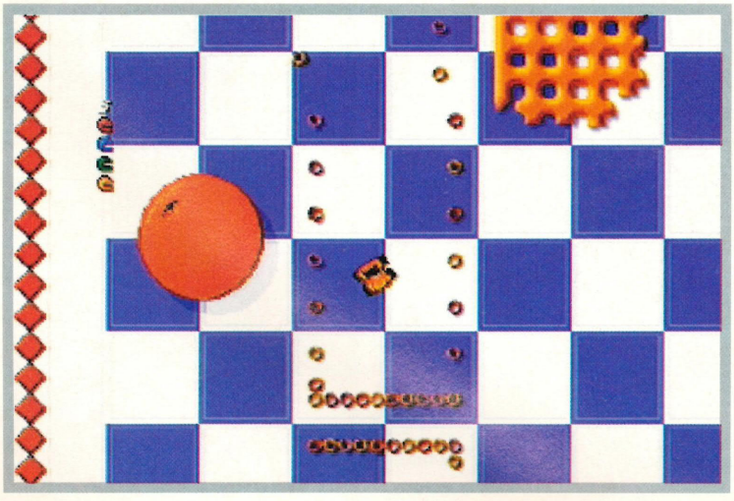



MicroMachines Challenge


TOYOTA
Castrol
2
Castrol
CIBIE








MicroMachines Challenge
?
CRAZY!
ABLE
ACE!
DIRE
POOR
CHERRY
CHEN
SPIDER
WALTER
DWAYNE
WHO DO YOU WANT TO BE?

PATRICK BATEMAN indulges in some wonderful wizardry as he tackles Merlin's Apprentice on CDi

MERLIN'S APPRENTICE



Puzzle games. Don't ya just hate them? With the honourable exception of "Tetris", this genre of gameplay just doesn't translate well to the TV screen — unless, of course, it is dressed up with ridiculously flashy window dressing like "The 7th Guest". So it was with some trepidation that I slipped "Merlin's Apprentice" — "a fully animated, story-driven puzzle game" — into my CDi player.

Four and a half interrupted hours later, I was still playing it.

What makes it so compulsive, even to a puzzle-book phobic like myself? Hard to say. The story that "drives" the game is hardly the most electrifying of scenarios: you are the wizard Merlin's apprentice, but the old guy has been hidden somewhere by three mischievous demons. To find the wizard, you need to complete a variety of magical challenges. Well strike me down with a feather!

If the story is a little pedestrian, the presentation is certainly a class apart from your typical brain teaser. The animation and cut screens are of the highest quality, especially for a base-case (non Digital Video) title. Real care has been taken with the music soundtrack and voices, too.

But what really keeps you glued to the joypad is the standard of the puzzles themselves. There are eight main categories in all, ranging from memory tests to sliding picture puzzles and secret code puzzles. Also featured are arcade-style, cursor-driven point-and-shoot levels which are surprisingly well implemented — the "feel" is responsive and the collision detection watertight.

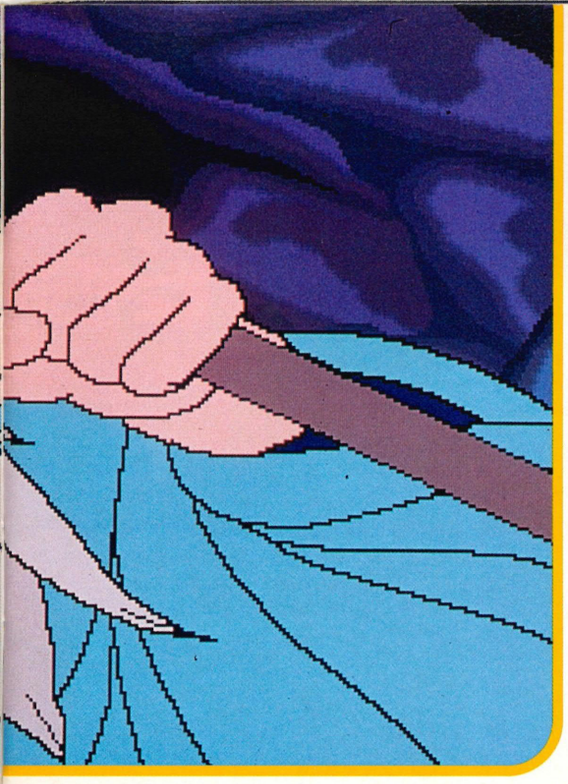
Each time you solve a puzzle you are rewarded with a magical item. At the end of the level, if you mix the right items in the correct order, a magic potion will transport you to the next level. Cue some more top-quality animated story telling and another set of puzzles.

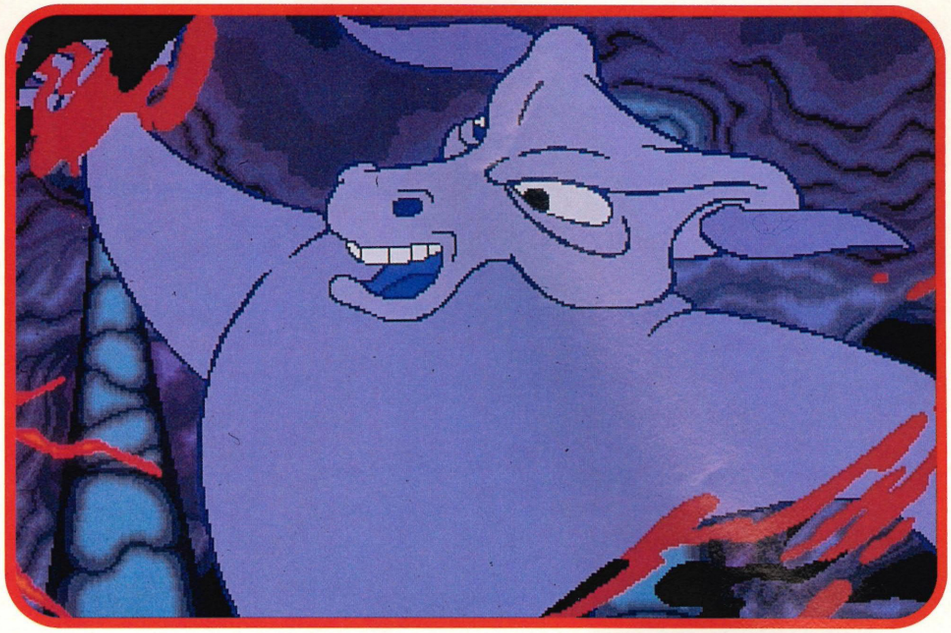
A typical example of this title's quality is the options screen. Instead of simply assigning a sweeping difficulty level — easy, average and hard — to the whole program, it allows you to tailor the challenge to suit your aptitude for particular types of puzzles. So if you are great at code-busting but have problems remembering your middle name, you can vary the handicap accordingly. A damn fine idea.

Inevitably, some of the puzzles work better than others (although this is probably personal prejudice). Sliding picture puzzles always drive

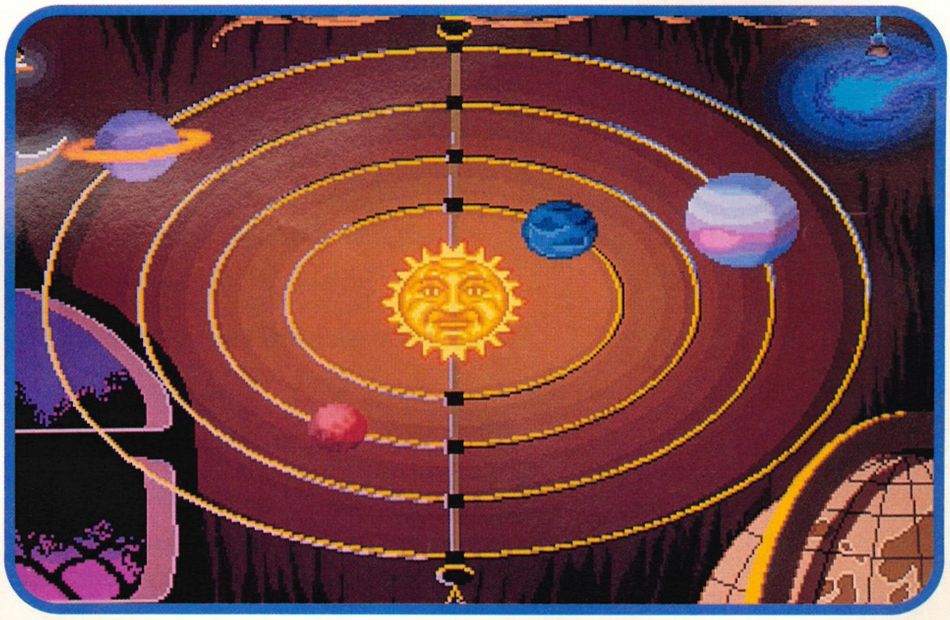














me up the wall, and in this disc the somewhat less-than-intuitive control system adds to the frustration factor. But the code cracking and potion mixing sections are beautifully logical brain-testers, and incur high levels of satisfaction when completed.

*Produced by Philips *FunHouse**

RATINGS

Graphics: 85%

Sound: 90%

Interactivity: 92%

Overall: 90%

Cost: £29.99 **Out: April 28**

KINGDOM: THE FAR REACHES

PATRICK BATEMAN is highly impressed with the latest role playing/fantasy adventure game from the makers of Mad Dog McCree

Kingdom's developer is US company CapDisc, which will be familiar to most CDi games fans from its work on the stupendous "Mad Dog McCree". This time CapDisc has turned its sights to producing the ultimate role-playing fantasy/adventure experience.

The story — and let's face it, any RPG worth its salt can't afford not to have an extended piece of sub-Tolkien nonsense to set the scene — concerns the, er, Lost Kingdom. Well, it's not really lost. It's just that the old magic has gone — literally.

The game opens with a furious battle between the armies of good and evil and we see the last of the magical Argent kings bite the bullet after taking a lightning bolt in the chest. The originator of the bolt is the dastardly "Twisted" Torlock, an all round bad egg who, along with his henchman the Plague Magician, has overthrown the established order to create a reign of chaos

Naturally, there is only one hope. That's you, the 22nd young apprentice to work for the wizard Delan — all the others met grisly ends. Armed only with a sense of civic pride, a pleasant demeanour and a fistful of magical scrolls you must travel the Kingdom in search of the five relics that make up the sacred Amulet of Mobus. Piece them together and Torlock and his cronies are history. But all manner of lethal obstacles appear in your path — from Crystal Tigers to flesh-eating rats.

I admit that I groaned when I first booted up this disc. Not because of the hackneyed fantasy trimmings, but because it looked like any other 100 per cent MPEG video "interactive (sic) movie". Thankfully "Kingdom — The Far Reaches" is a cut above those quasi-games.

Instead of aimlessly hitting the action button every time the MPEG stream pauses, "Kingdom" makes you use your brain before you come to a decision. It's not "University Challenge", but knowing when to run and when to make a stand; when to use a spell and, more importantly, what spell to use, add up to a much more satisfying gaming experience.

When you begin the Quest you have just three shots of the "Vision Spell" (makes blind beggars see, roots out hidden fairies) to help you on your way. Each time you return to Delan's mansion though, he'll set you up with another set of scrolls. Along with the magical items dotted around the landscape you soon build up a pretty hefty magical inventory.

When you visit locations you will always be greeted by an animated video sequence. This tends to feature somebody either trying to help you or kill you. After a few seconds the animation pauses and your inventory bar and cursor appear on screen. You control what happens next by selecting a spell or item or choosing a hot spot on the screen, such as a path out of the forest. But your energy is constantly heading south, so time is of the essence.

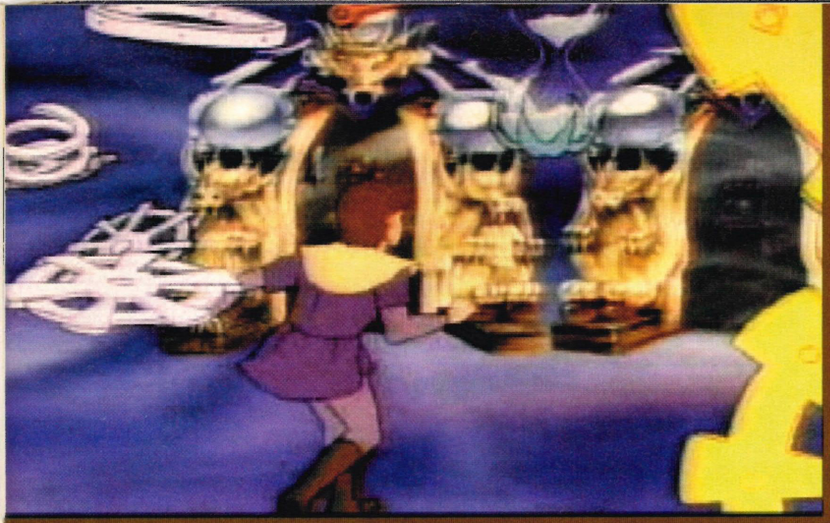
Although there are only 30 minues of video on the disc, the programmers have cleverly stretched this out by assigning multiple audio tracks to each sequence. So when you go back to a location you've visited before, the video may be the same, but the dialogue will reflect the fact that events have moved on. The effect works well, giving the impression that this is a *huge* game.

To be fair, it is pretty mammoth. CapDisc claims that there are over 300 locations — many with a variety of soundtracks — spread across 40 oversized maps. That makes this a CDi game that could last the distance, and the Save Game feature should also take a lot of the pain and frustration out of the journey.

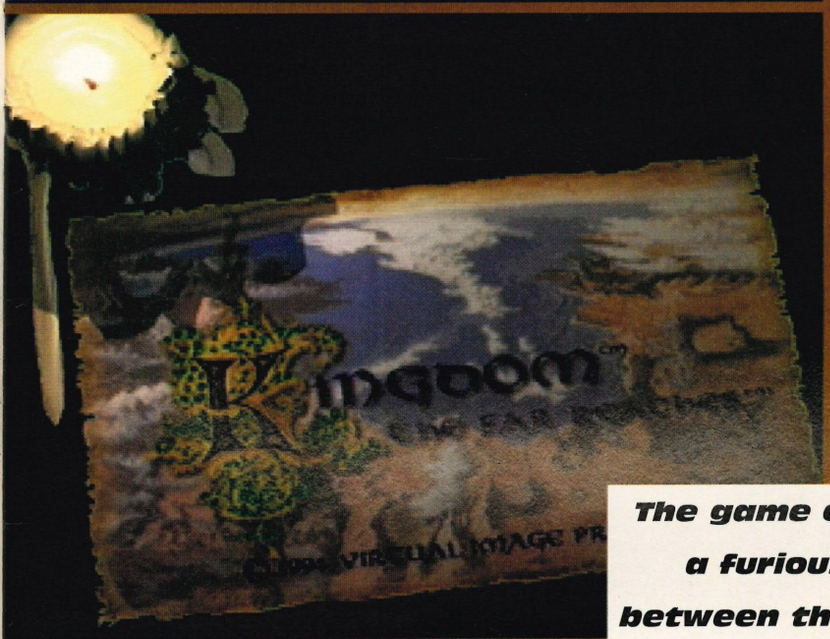
A full review will follow in our next issue, but the omens are looking pretty damned good. Meanwhile, I've got to work out how to get past those pesky Mist Trolls that patrol the peat bogs...

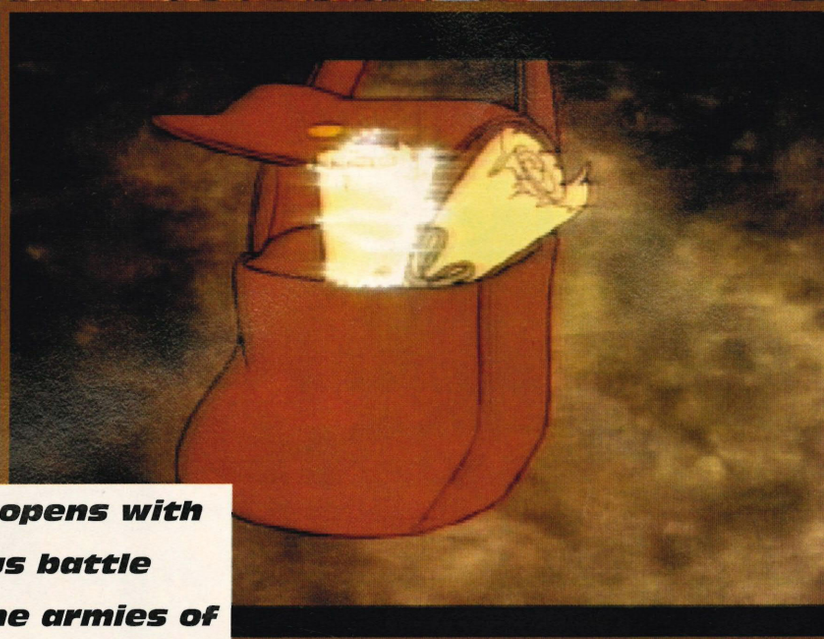


Produced by CapDisc
Cost: TBA
Available: June 1995

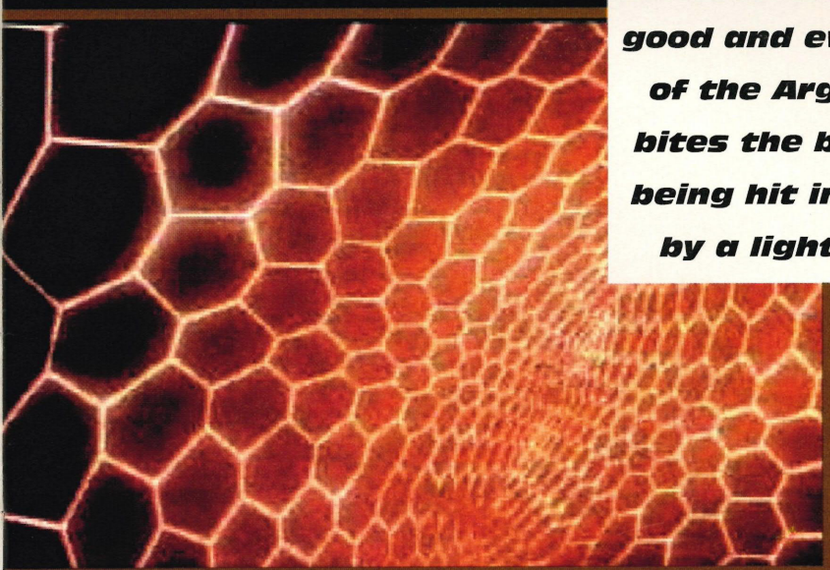






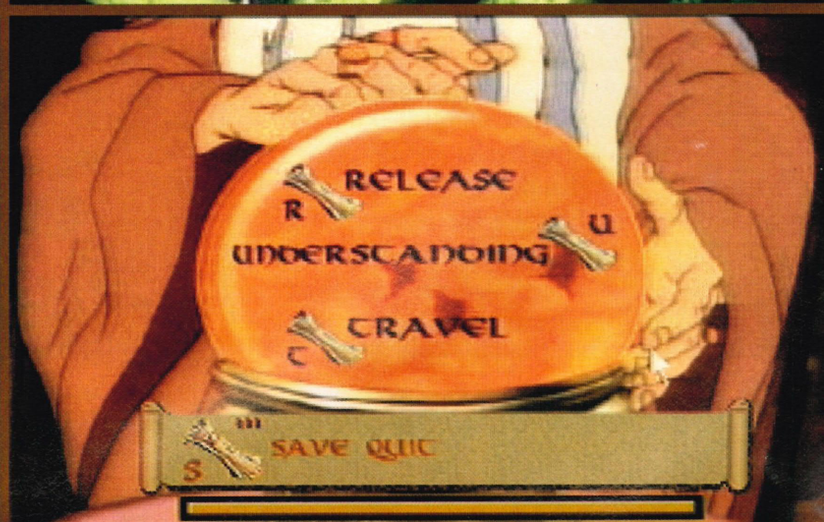


The game opens with a furious battle between the armies of good and evil. The last of the Argent kings bites the bullet after being hit in the chest by a lightning bolt



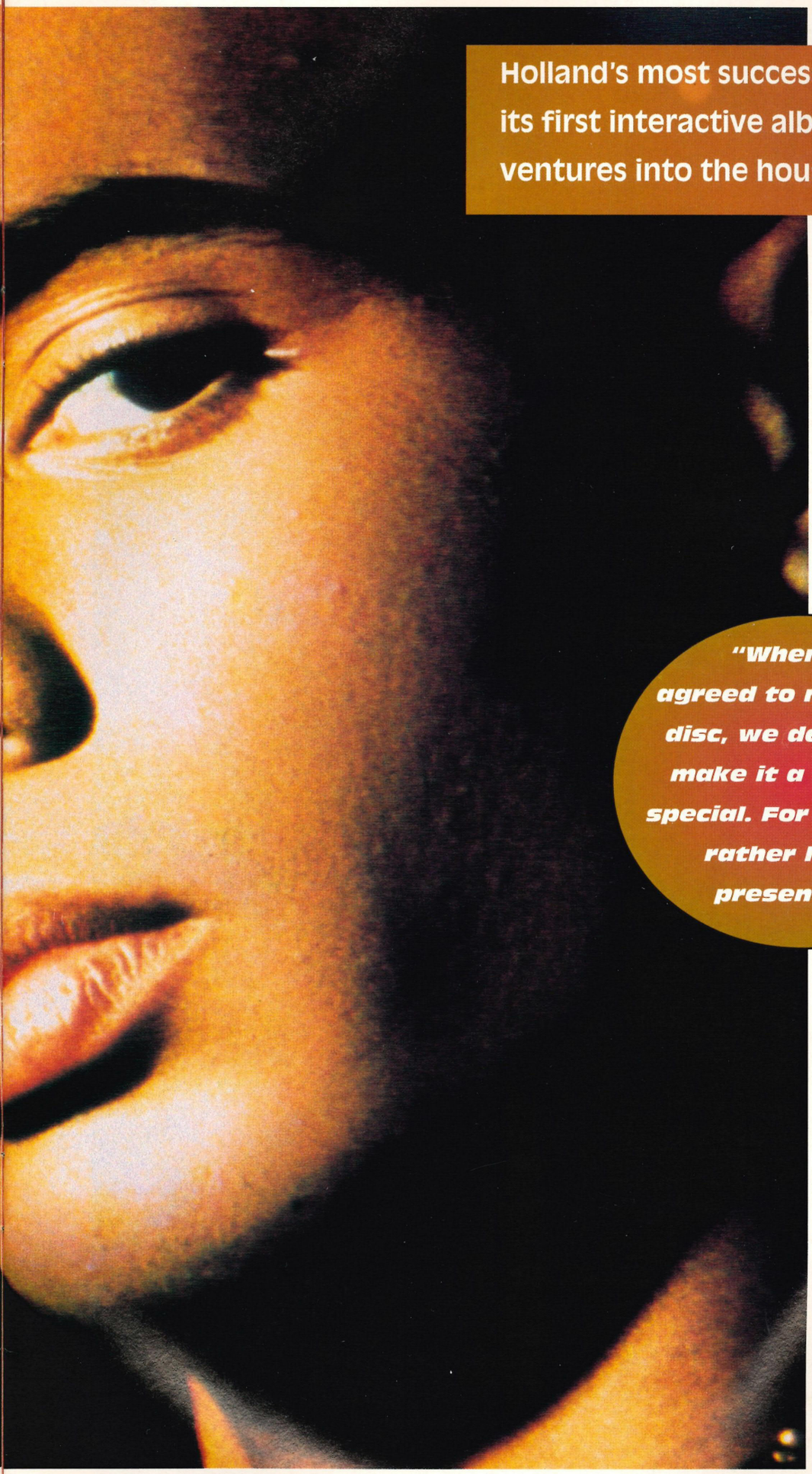






HOUSE 2 HOUSE





Holland's most successful band has just released its first interactive album on CDi. JASON ALESI ventures into the house with 2 Unlimited

We must always be grateful to 2 Unlimited for having performed a public service that few else could manage. After ten weeks at No 1, Whitney Houston's syrupy ballad "I Will Always Love You" was finally knocked off its perch by 2 Unlimited's "No Limits".

That single formed the basis of 2 Unlimited's career breakthrough. The numbers are impressive: "No Limits" went on to be No 1 in 35 countries, the band played in 50 countries and they've sold seven million albums worldwide. They've become the biggest selling Dutch band of all time, finally knocking Golden Earing off their perch.

"When we agreed to make this disc, we decided to make it a little bit special. For us, it was rather like TV presenting"

The band was formed two years ago, in May 1991, when Anita Dels and Ray Slijngaard met up with the Belgian production team of Phil Wilde and Jean Paul De Coster. The hits, due mainly to the public's insatiable appetite for European House, soon followed. In fact, the band had (in the UK at least) three Top 10 singles before "No Limits". You might not know many people who can hum them, though.

Nope, in the public mind, "No Limits" was when it all started. Since then, hit singles and albums have flowed with monotonous regularity. So, to alleviate the boredom of being so stupendously successful, 2 Unlimited has released an interactive CDi. That, too, looks like being a runaway hit.

In terms of interactivity, the disc is only one step behind Peter

Gabriel's "Xplora 1" (considered by many to be a benchmark for music CD-ROMS) and that puts it streets ahead of the rest of the competition (see review, page 22). So whose idea was it to create the disc?

"In the first place, it was the idea of the company who made the CDi," says Ray. "When they told us about it, we thought it was a good idea. It was something we hadn't done before, so it was quite a cool thing to do."

"We thought it was fun and something to play around with," adds Anita. "If you're just going to play music, you might as well just buy a CD or a video tape with all our videos on. But when we agreed to make this disc, we decided to make it a little bit special."

They've certainly done that. Eight audio tracks, five Digital Video clips and two live recordings are nestled within the hotspots of this program. Anita and Ray's main contribution is in the voiceovers and guiding the viewer around the various options. Their presence is definitely there but, as they explain, they didn't have much creative input in the actual assembling of the disc.

"The bits in between the tracks were all recorded separately," says Anita. "It was fun to do that actually. In the beginning, I didn't really understand it all because interactivity is very new. For us it was like TV presenting, but when I saw the finished product, I finally realised what everyone was on about and how it was going to look. I like it myself. You see the real Anita and the real Ray, the way we are."

"We had certain lines," says Ray, "and then we had to add our own input. You're the one that is doing the disc, so you have to represent yourself. It's up to you whether you are going to make it exciting or dull and boring."



"Our contract runs out this year and Ray and I have to sit down with the producers and discuss what we are going to do next"

Now that they know more about the format, they are eager to contribute more if the band makes another CDi.

"I like our own disc, but after seeing it and understanding what you can do with it, there is a lot more we could have done," says Anita. "That's what we might do if we ever make another one.

"The presenting would be more, how can I say, loose. It's very styled and it's nice the way it is now, but it wasn't all our words we were saying. We were given a script and we changed it a bit, but next time we would make up our own lines. We could take the camera into the studio where we put the music together, show other people who work on 2 Unlimited and film us practicising. We could add some other inside information."

Ray says the CDi disc has been such a success for them that they will probably make another one. He reckons that in ten years' time ordinary CDs will be dead and the interactive CD will reign supreme.

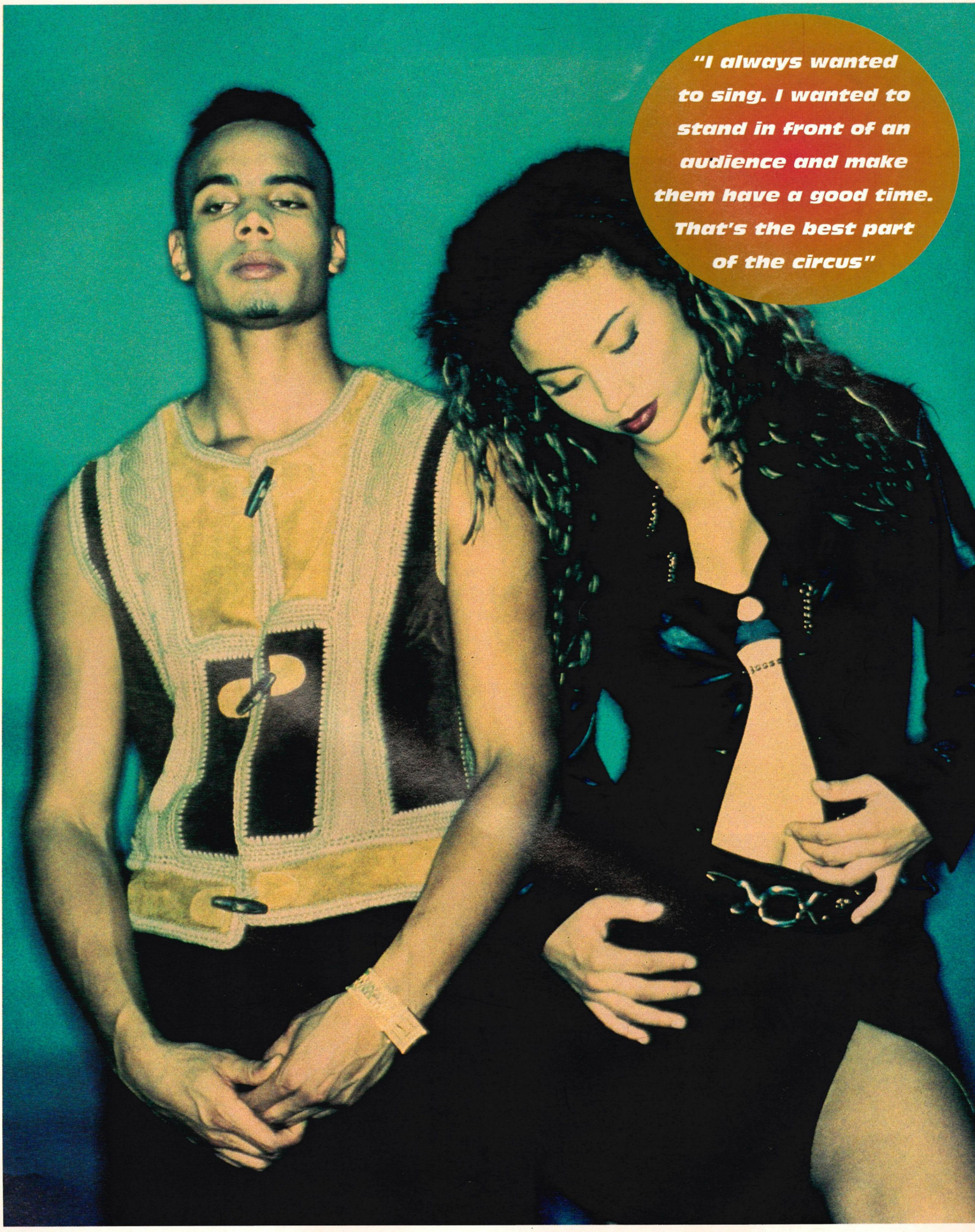
One of the most impressive parts of the "Beyond Limits" disc is the live clips. 2 Unlimited is not just another faceless dance band which disappears behind banks of sequencers and emulators when they are playing live. In concert, Ray and Anita kick buttock.

"That's the best part of the whole circus," says Anita. "That's why I'm in it. I always wanted to sing, I wanted to stand in front of an audience and make them have a good time. I didn't really realise there was so much other stuff that came with the live performances."

As to the future of the band itself, Ray says they still enjoy making records, so they'll continue to do so. But Anita is slightly more candid.

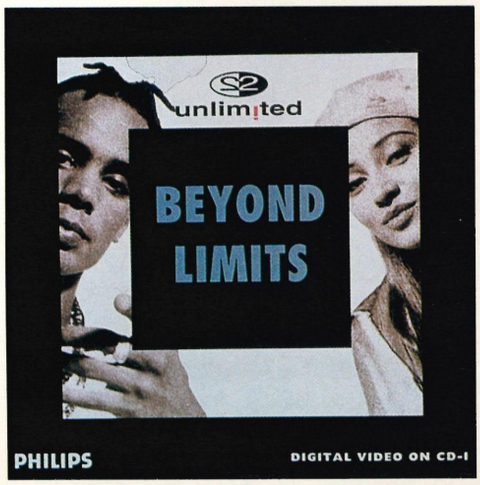
"Well, nobody knows," she says. "Our contract runs out this year and Ray and I have to sit down with the producers and discuss what we are going to do. It might be that one of us says, 'I'm bored with it. I've made enough money and I'm going to do something else'. We might get better offers, the producers might have other things to do, or the four of us may decide to carry on the way we are now."

As long as they produce more discs of this quality and don't do a cover of "I Will Always Love You", they're welcome to.

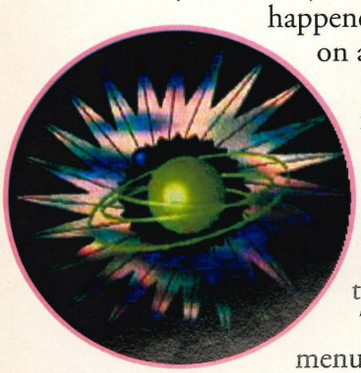

"I always wanted to sing. I wanted to stand in front of an audience and make them have a good time. That's the best part of the circus"

There are good interactive music discs, and bad ones. 2 Unlimited has done a better job than most, reckons JASON ALESI

2 UNLIMITED: BEYOND LIMITS



A truly interactive music disc? Gosh, that's almost a contradiction in terms. Pardon the sarcasm, but it has been a long time coming. If my memory serves me right, "Worlds Of..." was the last music release to bother troubling the "i" part of CDi. Despite a certain amount of record company evangelism, interactivity in music just hasn't happened yet on a major scale.

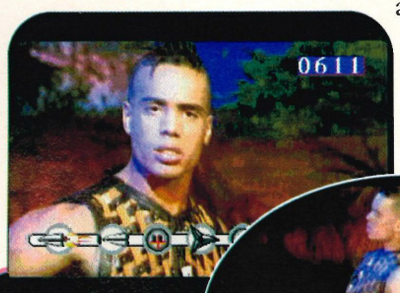


Whether this disc marks the opening of the floodgates is doubtful, but "Beyond Limits" is a good attempt to add value to a bunch of promo videos, live footage and other bits and pieces. It's even a CD Plus disc, allowing you to blast out eight 2 Unlimited tracks through a conventional stereo if you're so inclined.

There are six options on the menu: the promo videos; live clips; straight audio; Ray's box of assorted goodies; Anita's scrapbook and a quick plug for their merchandise. Inside each of these there are also a couple more options leading down various other avenues.



There is not a huge amount of material tucked away on the disc, but most of what there is is good quality viewing. Highlights

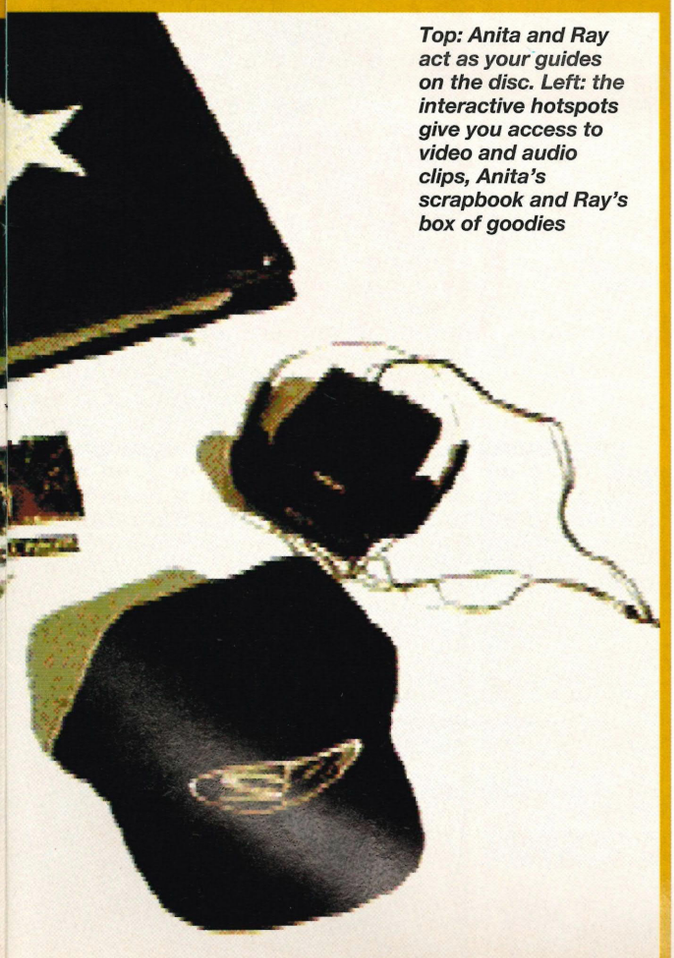












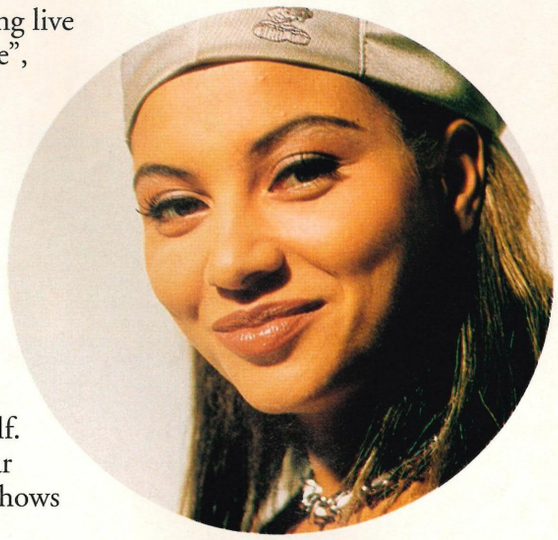
Top: Anita and Ray act as your guides on the disc. Left: the interactive hotspots give you access to video and audio clips, Anita's scrapbook and Ray's box of goodies

are probably the storming live version of "Tribal Dance", Anita doing a passable imitation of a kid's TV presenter throughout, and the cheesy but entertaining No Limits promo video. Most amazing, though, is a brief ten second appearance by none other than the great Rolf Harris himself.

"Beyond Limits" is far from half-hearted and shows what the medium can do with a little effort. Good music, excellent encoding, interactive design and Rolf Harris. All in all, a bit of a winner.

Produced by Eaglevision

Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Encoding: Excellent
Cost: £17.99
Available: now







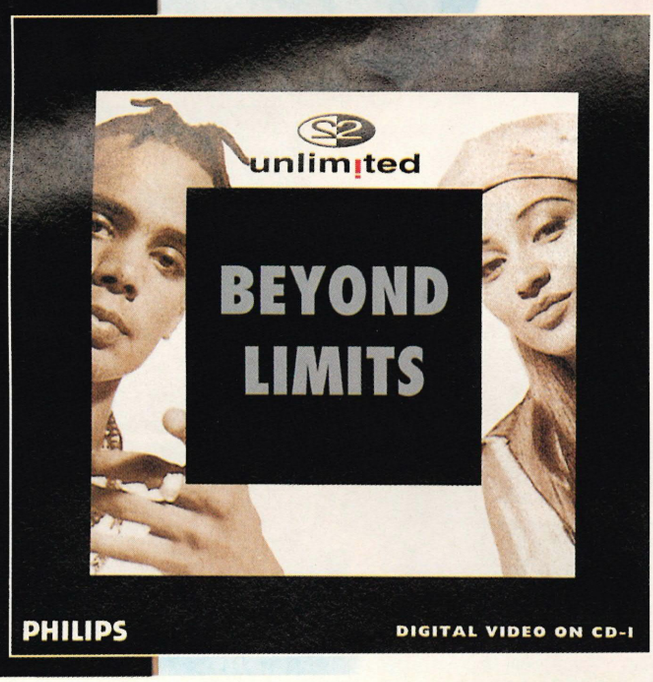
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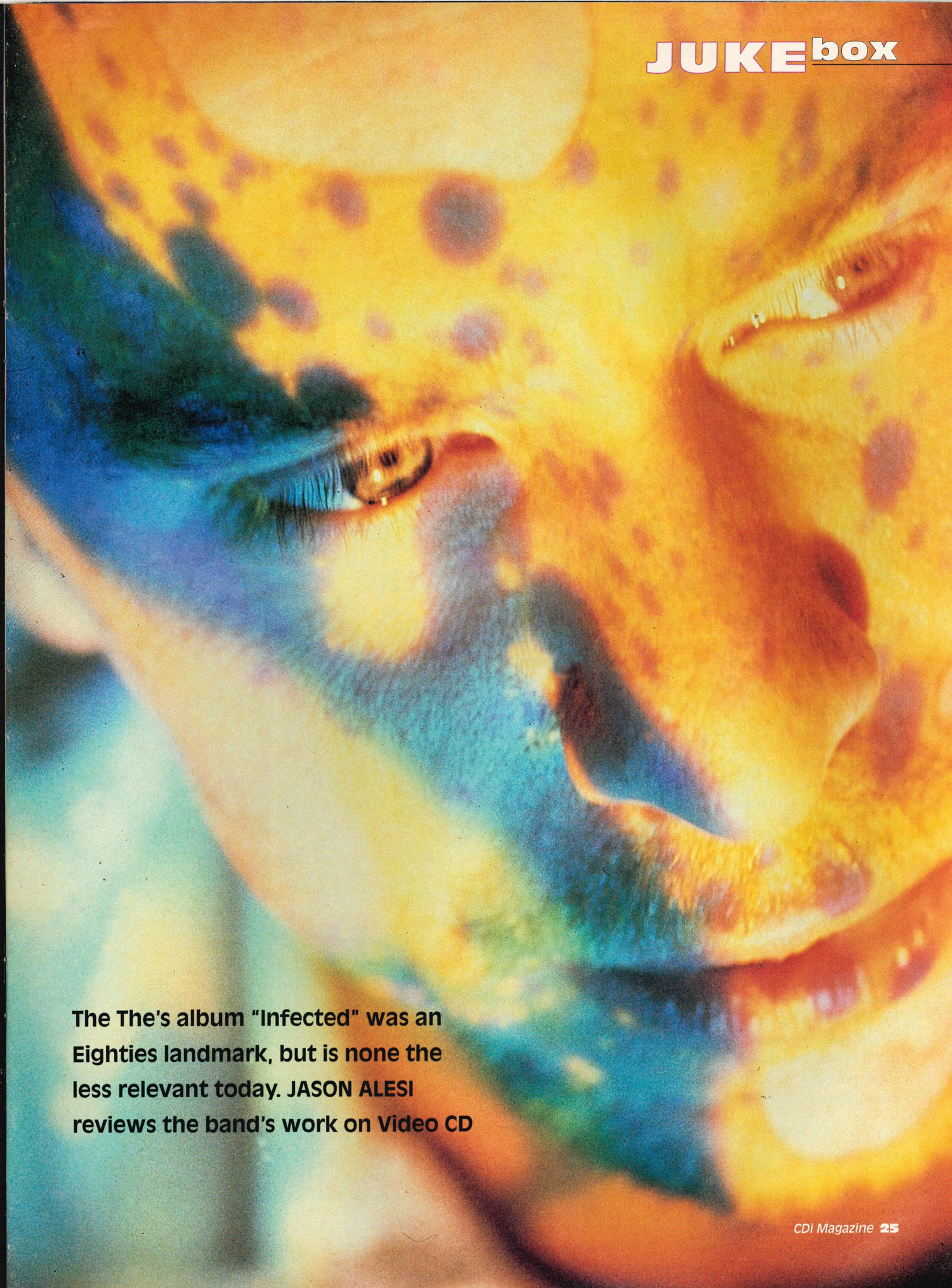
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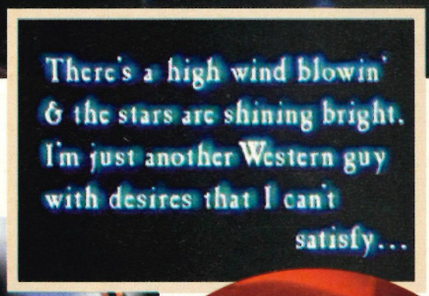
The The's album "Infected" was an Eighties landmark, but is none the less relevant today. JASON ALESI reviews the band's work on Video CD

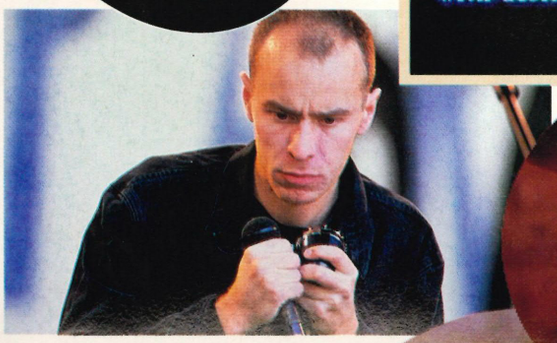




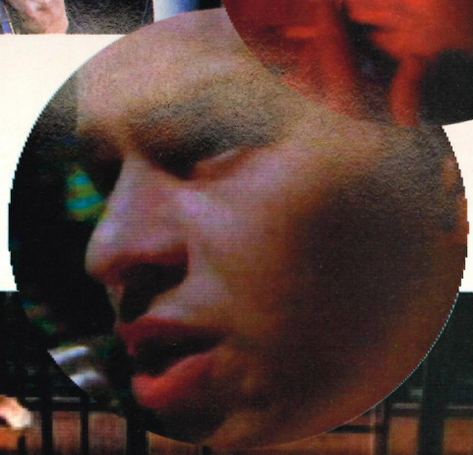














THE THE: INFECTED — THE MOVIE

This is a little piece of history. Matt Johnson's The The released "Infected" sometime in the Eighties and it still stands out as a landmark album. It was political, it was agitated, it was angry, but you could still dance to it if you wanted to. As you danced, though, its vocals whispered uncomfortable truths into your ears.

Its agenda was sweeping: AIDS, Thatcherism, the decline of the welfare state and Vietnam, all collected together and bunged into a melting pot of unrest. Not the sort of album to play when your parents pop in for a visit.

It still stands out, too, Johnson doing such a good job on the album that it doesn't sound dated or contrived even in the mid Nineties. Visually, it's equally as good.

The music on its own speaks of unease. Add the videos and you've got a sense of creeping claustrophobia. Johnson navigates through a landscape of unsettling images running the gamut from gunboats heading up river in South East Asia, prostitutes stealing money from punters in seedy hotel rooms to decaying inner city landscapes. Want something to cheer you up? Well, "Infected" is a lost cause. But if you want thoughtful, provoking music, it's a winner. A "must" buy.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Encoding: good
Cost: £17.99
Available: April 28

RATINGS:
☆=poor ☆☆=average
☆☆☆=good ☆☆☆☆=very good
☆☆☆☆☆=excellent
This Video CD is available from Philips Media

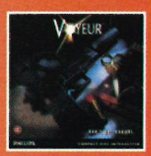


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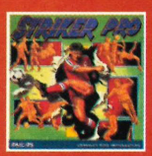
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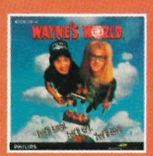
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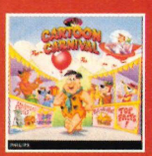
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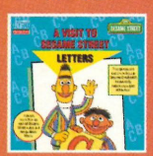
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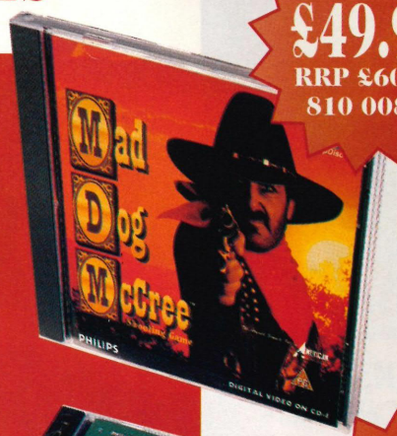
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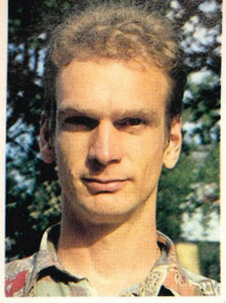
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BEN SOUTHWELL reviews one of 1994's biggest hits this month, and for Trekkers there are two more fabulous Star Trek films coming soon





STAR TREK: THE MOTION PICTURE

As "Generations" marks the successful cinematic debut for the cast of "The Next Generation", this CDi version of "Star Trek: The Motion Picture" gives you a chance to remind yourself how the veterans fared with their first outing on the big screen.

After a decade of rumours and false hopes, the original crew of the USS Enterprise finally boldly made the leap into movies in 1979 following the success of "Star Wars" and "Close Encounters of the Third Kind". While the story — a strange all-powerful force approaches Earth threatening everything in its path — may be a bit on the slow side, it was still great to see Kirk and crew back in action. The special effects are the best that money can buy and were rightly nominated for an Oscar, as was the sweeping music, which should sound wonderful on CDi.

Trekkers starved of new material queued round the block for this and turned it into one of the biggest hits of the year, easily passing the $100m mark and setting off one of the most successful science fiction film series of all time. It may be a bit long, and with far too much talking for its own good, but any film that brings back Kirk and his team gets my vote any day. Philips knows it is on to a winner by releasing the Star Trek series on Video CD, and our spies tell us that Star Trek III and IV will be next on the list.



Rating: ☆☆☆
(☆☆☆☆ for Trekkers!)
Encoding: good
Cost: £17.99
Available: May 26











STAR TREK II: THE WRATH OF KHAN

One of the best of the Star Trek movies and a huge relief after the so sloooow "Star Trek: The Motion Picture".

Gone is the pomposity of the first movie, and in its place we get a rollicking good tale filled with all the best from the TV series. It's as if everyone suddenly woke up and remembered just what made Star Trek great.

"The Wrath of Khan" is an adventure story that pits Kirk's Enterprise against Khan (a villain from the original TV series) in a battle for control of a new lifeforce. The pace is fast and the action well handled by director Nicholas Meyer, though a nasty torture scene is a bit out of place in a Star Trek film.

Of course, there is still a great deal of Trekkie moralising which involvies Kirk (at his humanist best), plus personal sacrifice and tragedy, but that's what the Star Trek series is all about.

The regular stars are on display once again, plus Kirstie Allen (of "Cheers" fame) who made an early career appearance as a new Vulcan member of the crew.

It's not as much fun as "Star Trek VI", but it runs a close second.

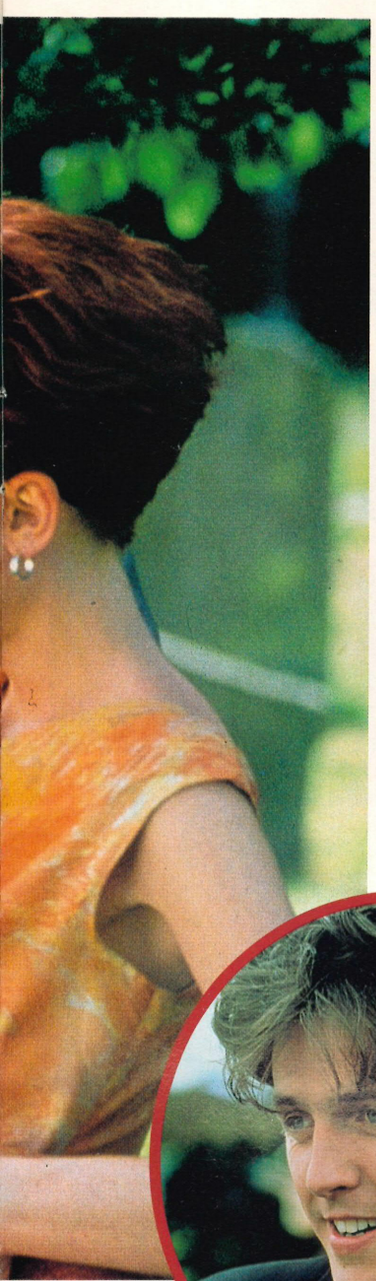
Rating: ☆☆☆☆
Encoding: good
Cost: £17.99
Available: May 26



FOUR WEDDINGS AND A FUNERAL



This is one of the most successful British films EVER. It made a small fortune at the box office. When it comes to pomp and circumstance, the British are in a league of their own, and writer Richard Curtis was very clever in tapping into the rich vein of comedy that British society weddings offer. Hugh Grant stars as roguish bachelor Charles as he and friends make their way through, of course, four weddings and a funeral. At the first wedding, Charles falls hopelessly for a beautiful American lady and spends the rest of the film pursuing her. Yet this clever and very funny comedy is far from predictable. It's a deceptively simple plot but it has been rigorously crafted to make it a movie that you'll enjoy time and







Above: Dick Van Dyke stars as the inventor who builds Chitty Chitty Bang Bang



time again.
The casting of the oh-so-charming Hugh Grant as the roguish bachelor and Andie MacDowell as the love of his life were strokes of pure genius. The soundtrack is a magnificent ode to love (including Wet Wet Wet's *Love is All Around*) and the film is quite simply one of the funniest, most charming and entertaining movies of recent years.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆☆
Encoding: no disc
Cost: £19.99
Available: April 10

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

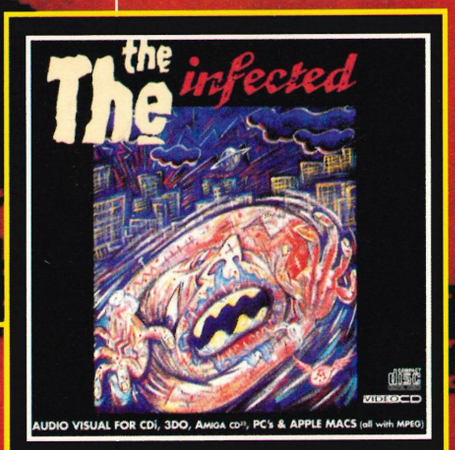
The films in this section are from Paramount Pictures, MGM/UA or PolyGram Video. All require a Philips DV cartridge

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

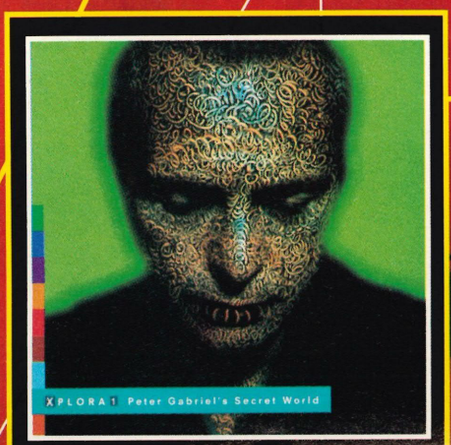
This musical based on a book by Ian Fleming (author of the James Bond books) has become a classic for generations of British children. It is one of the first films I can remember being taken to see as a child, and it scared the wits out of me. Dick Van Dyke plays an inventor who can't quite ever build anything that actually works. Then one day he takes a beaten up old car and manages to give it very special powers indeed, so creating Chitty Chitty Bang Bang of the title. The children who get to fly in the car are, naturally enough, totally thrilled, particularly when car and inventor combine to help them overthrow a child hating government.
Some of the scenes are superb. The wicked and deceptive Child Catcher is still the stuff that nightmares are made of, and the title song was nominated for an Oscar. You'll soon catch yourself humming some of the tunes when you watch the film again. Don't expect the special effects to be up to Star Wars standards, but this will bring the memories flooding back.

Rating: ☆☆☆
Encoding: no disc
Cost: £17.99
Available: May 26

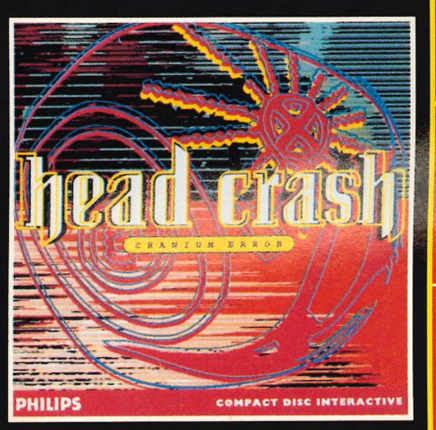
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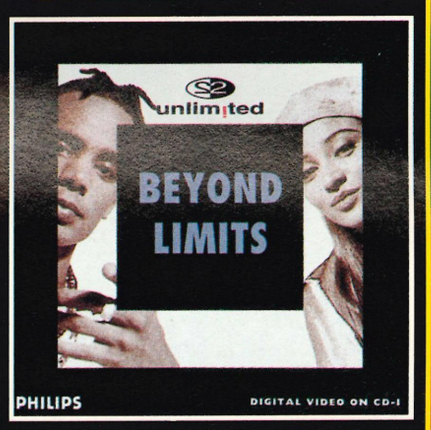
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Art House Productions' first film on Video CD is a cracker, according to PATRICK BATEMAN







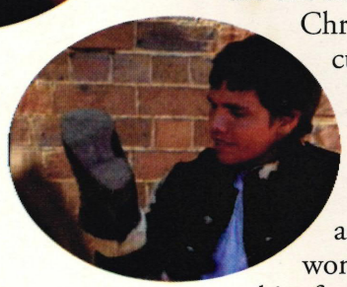
THE CHANT OF JIMMIE BLACKSMITH

This is the first of the films to be released on Video CD by Art House Productions in conjunction with OmniMedia (see News). Based on a novel by "Schindler's List" author Thomas Kenneally, "The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith" is another harrowing tale of man's injustice to his fellow man. This time the setting is not Nazi Germany, but New South Wales at the turn of the century — when the Australian states were being federated to create a new nation.



Of course, the original Australians — the Aborigines — have no place in this new nation order. "You still have the same rights," says one character, "none." The film follows the plight of Jimmie Blacksmith, a mulatto aborigine raised by a Methodist preacher and caught between two worlds: on the one side there is the White Man's Christianity, on the other the culture and heritage of his own people.





The clash comes to a head when Jimmie (well played by Tommy Lewis in his first acting role) marries a white woman and goes to work for a white family. But no matter how hard he tries, Jimmie cannot get a foothold in the fundamentally racist society. The work and the money dry up and, desperate to feed himself and his family, Jimmie and his uncle visit his employers to find that the menfolk are all away. The women, far from being sympathetic, brusquely dismiss their appeals for food — a refusal that ignites Jimmie's long-smouldering resentment.

A sudden explosion of violence leaves the family dead and Jimmie goes on a murderous rampage, leaving a trail of blood across New South Wales as the manhunt closes in.

"The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith" is a long, long film (150 minutes) and it's not an easy one to watch — besides the harrowing violence, there's an absence of easily identifiable heroes and villains. The fact that by the end you can sympathise with — if not condone — Jimmie's one man war against society is a testament to the film's power. You won't switch off your CDi player feeling uplifted, but it will open your eyes.

The transfer of the film onto Video CD has been carried out by OmniMedia, and they've done a marvellous job. The menu screens are beautifully presented (even the copyright warning fades to black) and the VCR controls are even better than Philips's own Video CD software. Picture and sound quality are above par, although some fast moving scenes in the woods do overload the MPEG 1 algorithms and create a mosaic of blocks.

"The Chant of Jimmie Blacksmith" is a welcome sign that the Video CD market is maturing beyond Hollywood blockbusters and music videos.

Rating: ☆☆☆☆ Encoding: good
Cost: £14.99
Available: May 8
Contact: VCI on 01923 816511

The latest batch of films from CD Vision are a very mixed bag indeed, reckons PATRICK BATEMAN



FASCINATION

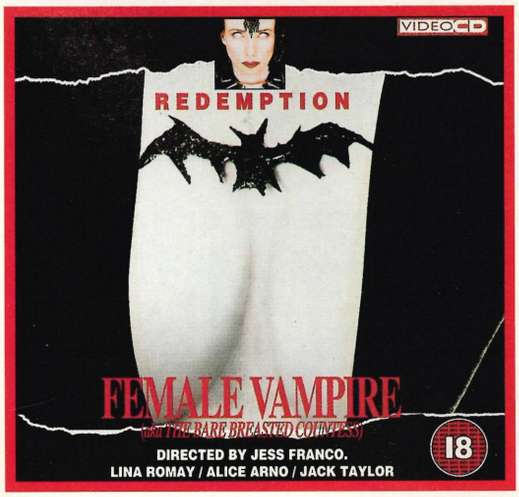
Thankfully, the Redemption label has been redeemed somewhat by this movie. Made comparatively recently (1979), "Fascination" is a rather good Gothic tale of sapphic love, cannibalism and revenge. A dashing thief escapes a pursuing mob by taking refuge in a creepy chateau. For some reason his pursuers are unwilling to enter the building, whose sole occupants are two beautiful young women, Elisabeth and Eva, eager to burst out of their bodices at the slightest provocation. Inevitably, the bandit beds one of the girls, provoking the murderous rage of her partner. Meanwhile, a cortege of other nubile women arrives at the chateau, licking their lips and sizing up the hero's appendages. What can be on the menu?

Unlike the Jess Franco farragoes, "Fascination" is a genuinely involving piece of film-making. The acting ranges from serviceable to rather good, the script keeps the plot twists coming and the occasional sex scenes are tastefully shot, even verging on the erotic. The fact that the film is sub-titled rather than dubbed also helps matters, as the original French dialogue heightens the sense of Gothic malevolence.

The encoding and presentation are well up to scratch, making "Fascination" well worth a look if you've got an interest in the macabre and unusual.

Rating: ☆☆☆
Encoding: good Cost: £17.99
Available: now
Contact: CD Vision 0181 503 0589

FEMALE VAMPIRE



This is a curious mix of sex and horror that epitomises the latest batch of Redemption releases from CD Vision, master of the Video CD "B" movie. "Female Vampire" is a 22 year-old French/Belgian co-production directed by the shlock specialist Jess Franco. It concerns the story of Countess Irina Karlstein, an aristocratic vampire with a very sharp tongue. She wanders naked around a holiday resort, fellates a number of men and women to death and nobody bats an eyelid (perhaps it's a Club 18-30 destination). Eventually, she falls in love with one of her victims and drowns herself in a bath of blood to "rejoin her beloved in the realm of the dead".

The presentation of this Video CD, despite the rather dodgy nature of the original material, is light years ahead of CD Vision's previous efforts. There is a proper front end this time, complete with chapter headings and thumbnail pictures. Sadly, despite the pretty trimmings, "Female Vampire" is still a pile of old tosh — further hamstrung by the most appalling dubbing (in terms of synchronisation and acting) I have ever experienced. The lighting is terrible, the soundtrack sounds like it was knocked up on a stylophone and the dialogue is reminiscent of a dodgy 1970s porno movie — which at the end of the day is what this is. Neither erotic nor frightening, it's like "Carry On Screaming" remade by Hugh Hefner on the cheap. Avoid.

18

Rating: ☆ Encoding: average Cost: £17.99 Available: now
Contact: CD Vision on 0181 503 0589

TENDER AND PERVERSE EMANUELLE



Another Jess Franco production, and the best quote the sleeve notes could dig up for this one is "a very atmospheric and moodily romantic film". Er, quite. This 1973 production — which has slipped through every one of my many film guides, proving there is such a thing as a quality threshold — is Mr Franco's bizarre rip-off of the Emanuelle movies that were all the rage in the 1970s.

But unlike those films, "Tender and Perverse Emanuelle" operates under a number of handicaps: a non-existent budget, pug ugly actors and a plot that meanders up its own backside. It's supposed to be a whodunnit, as an investigator retraces the events which led up to the apparent suicide of Emanuelle.

Naturally, a host of flashbacks illustrates her various couplings with people of either sex — among them her hatchet-faced shrink and her husband's sister. But by the end of the movie, the biggest criminal in the viewer's mind is the writer/director who inflicted this sorry saga on the public, good old Jess Franco.

The encoding quality is as good as the original murky masters allow and probably better than they deserve. But hopefully I will never see this movie again.

Rating: ☆ Encoding: poor Cost: £17.99 Available: now
Contact: CD Vision on 0181 503 0589

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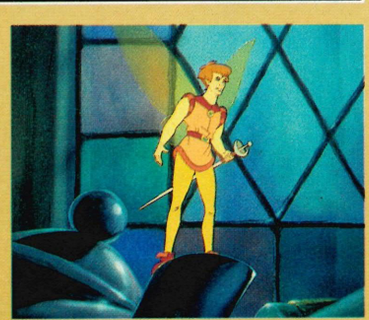
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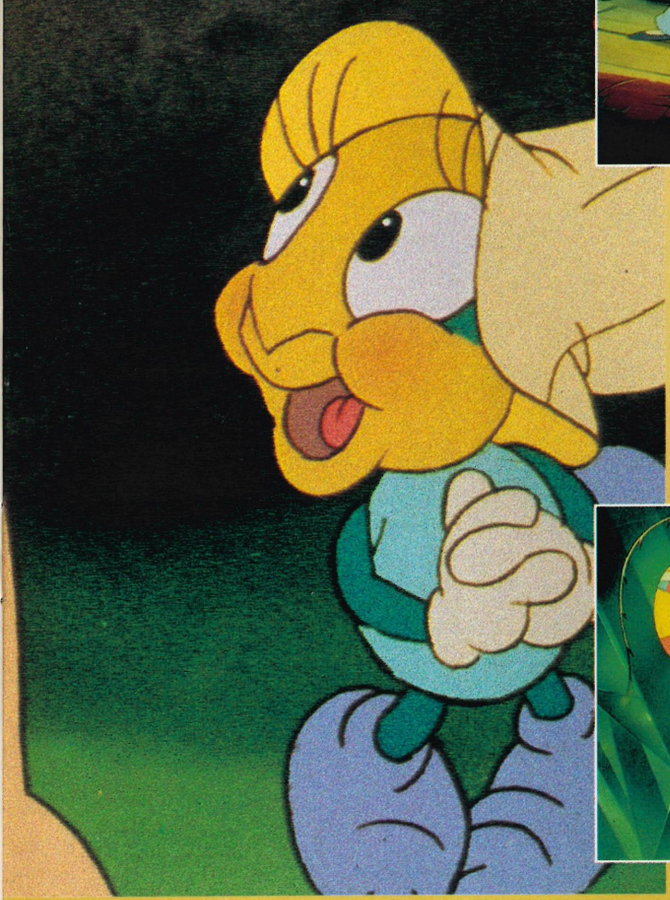
Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale will be released on Video CD this summer. There will also be a CDi game based on the film, reports ANDY CLOUGH





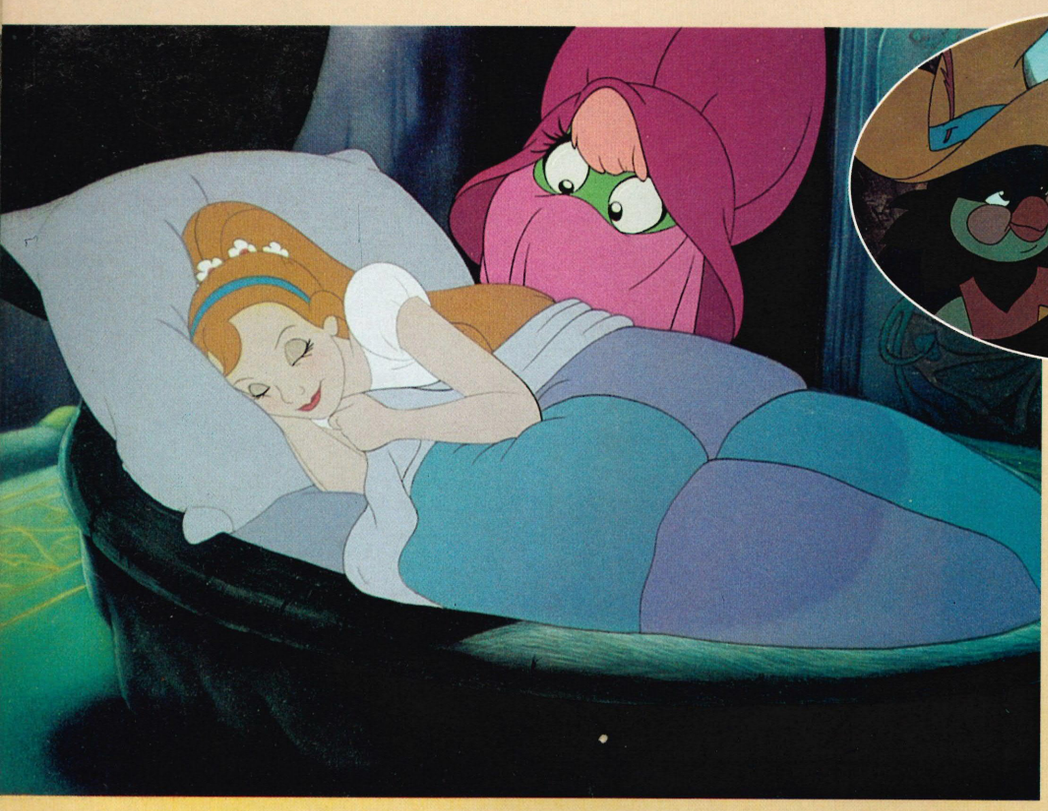


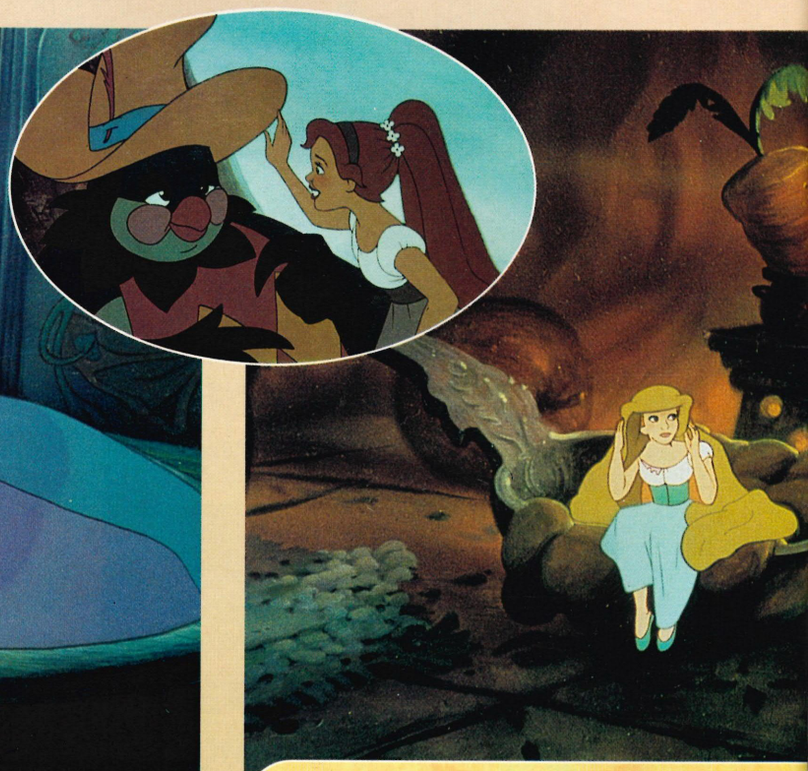




Disney has always set the standard for full-length animated feature films, and recently that standard has been very high indeed. "Aladdin", "Beauty and The Beast" and, most recently, "The Lion King" have brought audiences flooding in, and not just traditional family audiences, either. So "Thumbelina", the latest release from former Disney animator Don Bluth, has got a lot to live up to. With their Disney background, directors Don Bluth and Gary Goldman deliver traditional, Disney-style entertainment. (Remember, Bluth is the man behind "Space Ace" and "Dragon's Lair"). The story is Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairy tale of a little girl the size of a thumb and her adventures as she searches for her perfect fairy prince.

One night, the fairy prince is drawn to the sound of an enchanting voice and finds the beautiful Thumbelina who is no bigger than himself. But before their romance can blossom, Thumbelina is kidnapped by Delores Toad, waylaid by a Berkeley Beetle and betrothed to a befuddled Mr Mole. A passing swallow, Jacquimo, hears Thumbelina's cries for help and



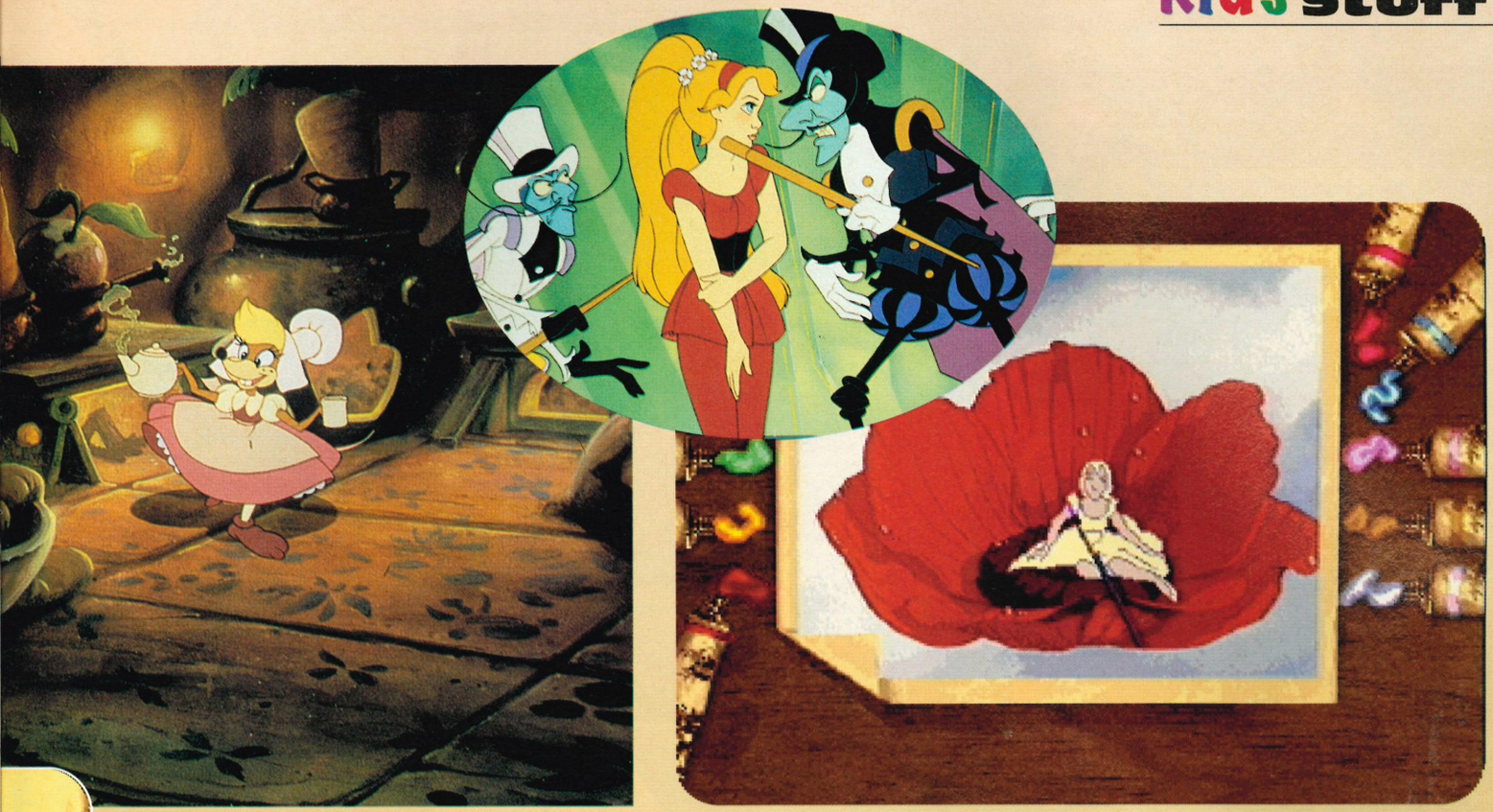


and urges her not to fear her plight but to follow her heart. Sure enough, her Prince Cornelius battles storms to rescue his one true love. Along the way there is some wonderful animation, lovely set pieces and a string of Barry Manilow songs. While there may not be a great deal of difference between these songs and the ones composed for Disney by Tim Rice and Elton John, the soundtrack fits the mood of the film beautifully. The budget for "Thumbelina" may not have been in the same league as a Disney production, as there are no big name stars in the film, but it is still good, clean family entertainment and kids will want to watch it again and again.

Rating: ✔✔✔✔
Encoding: no disc
Cost: £17.99
Available:May 26







THUMBELINA INTERACTIVE

Not content with just releasing the Video CD version of the film, Don Bluth has gone one further and is helping develop an interactive version of Hans Christian Andersen's classic fairytale for CDi. The animation specialist has teamed up with Epic to produce the disc, which is due for release in May.

The concept behind it is simple. There are seven stories to choose from, including "A Girl No Bigger Than A Thumb", "The Fairy Prince" and "A Royal Wedding". All the user has to do is click on the appropriate icon, and that story will begin.

Each tale is illustrated with text and pictures from the film. You can read the story yourself, or read along with the narrator. But the clever bit is the interactive element. This consists of a number of tasks; you can solve picture puzzles, sing along to the songs, paint scenes from the film or identify different animals on the screen.

Each picture has illustrations around it to identify if it is interactive. For instance, there is an illustration of paints and brushes for the colouring sections, musical notes for the song sequences or different shapes (stars, circles etc) for the picture puzzles. If you complete a picture puzzle correctly, a video clip from the film will play.

It is these animated sequences that really bring the whole disc alive. Children can see that particular scene replayed from the film.



The Barry Manilow soundtrack adds an extra dimension to the title, which should provide hours of entertainment. Combined with the linear Video CD of the film, it should make a real treat for all the family.

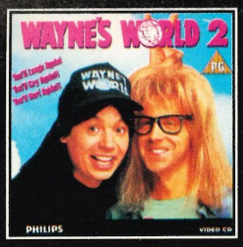
Produced by Epic, published by Spice Multimedia

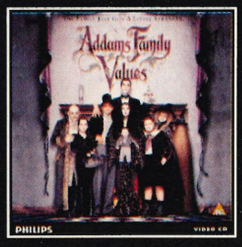
Rating: ✓✓✓
Cost: £29.99
Available: May



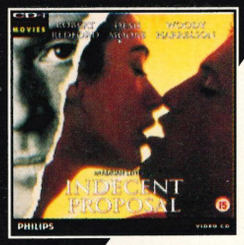
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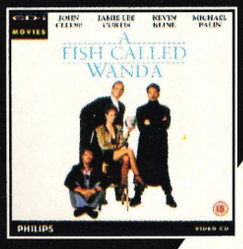


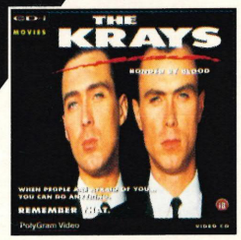


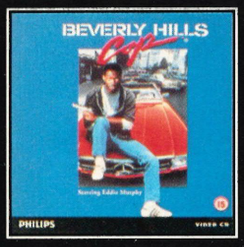


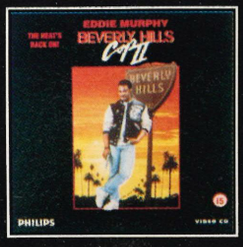


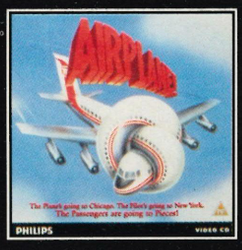


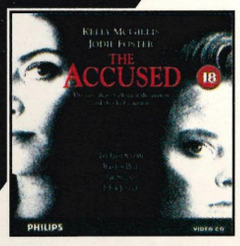


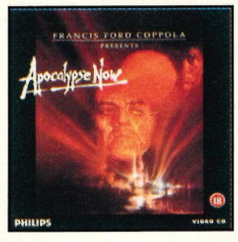






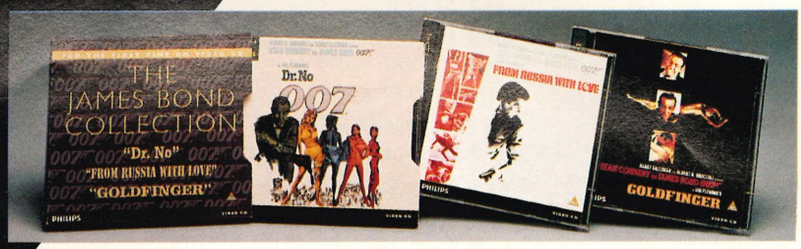


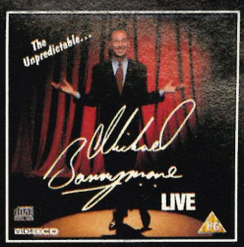




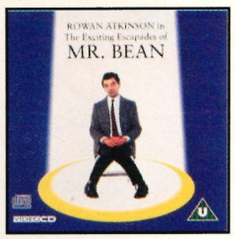




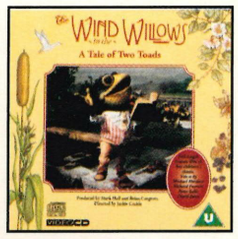


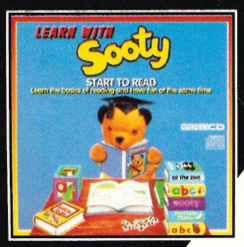


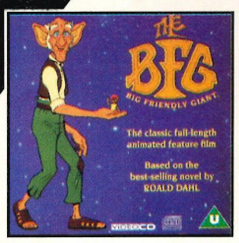


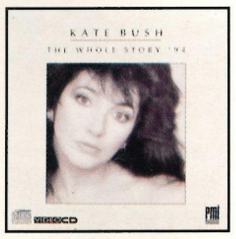




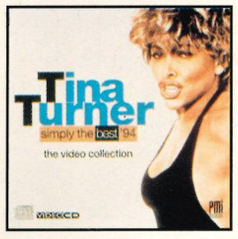












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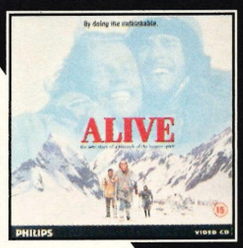
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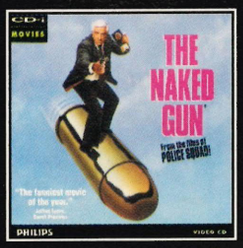
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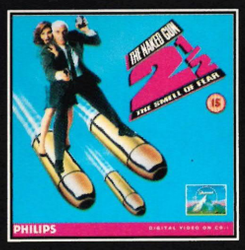
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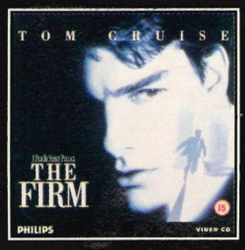
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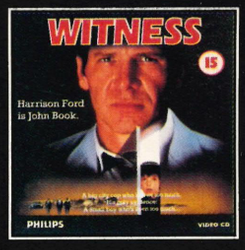
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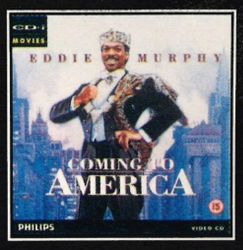


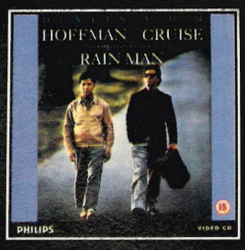


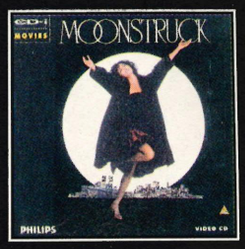




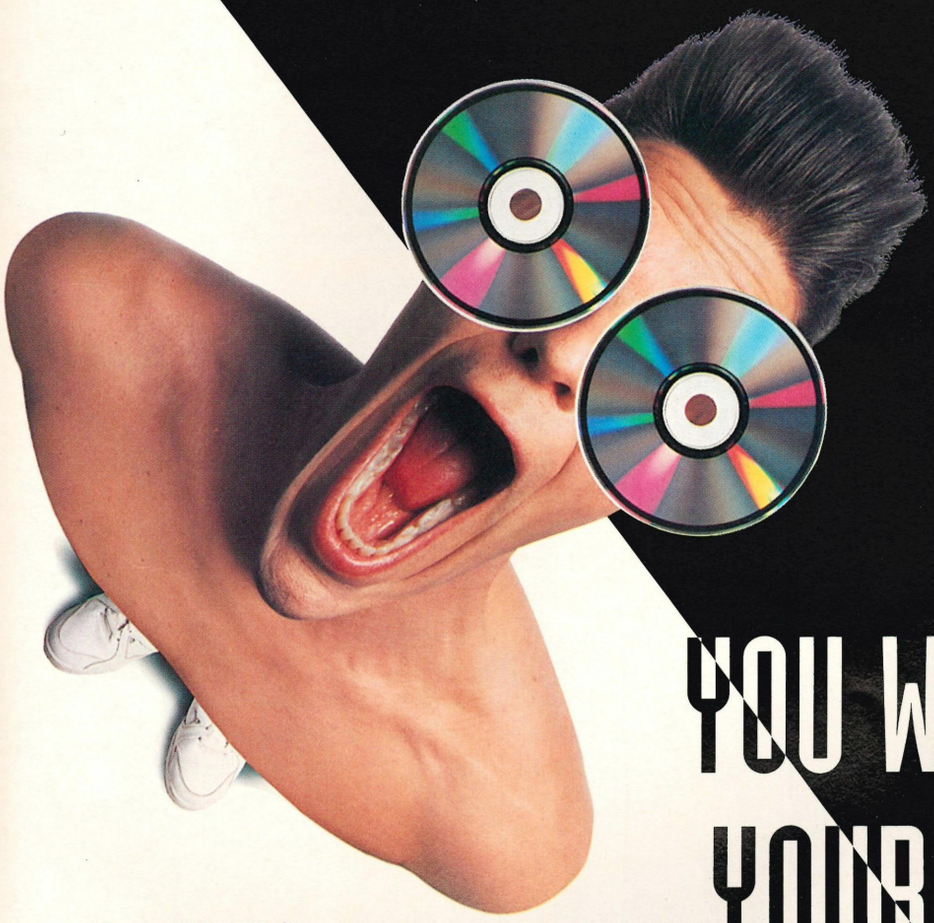






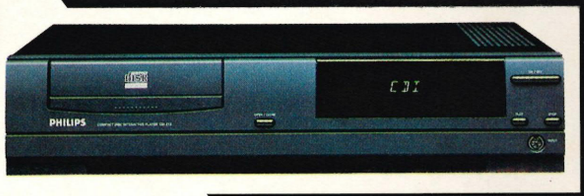


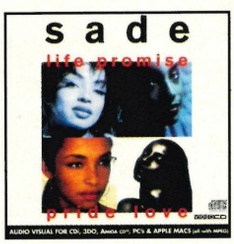


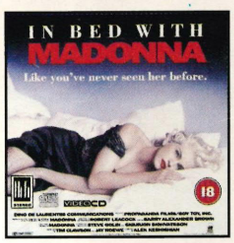


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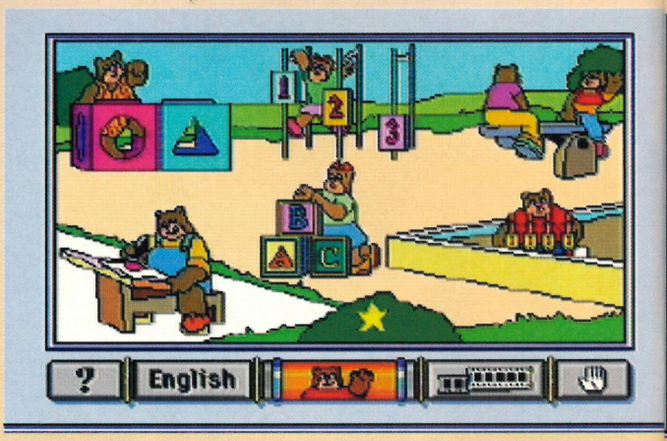
STICKYBEAR PRESCHOOL

Your children can improve their learning skills with this great interactive title featuring Stickybear and his friends









In case you were thinking that CDi only offers computer games and movies, here is a perfect example of the educational value of the software being produced by the Philips Family Entertainment label.

Stickybear Preschool follows on from the successful Stickybear Maths, and once again features the loveable character of Stickybear, created by Richard Heffer.

This time the activities are based around letters, numbers, words, colours and shapes. You join Stickybear in the school playground and have to take part in a number of exercises, with English or Spanish narration.

For example, in the alphabet section you can click on any letter, and an object beginning with that letter will be shown on screen. Press F and a frog will appear, V for a volcano and so on.

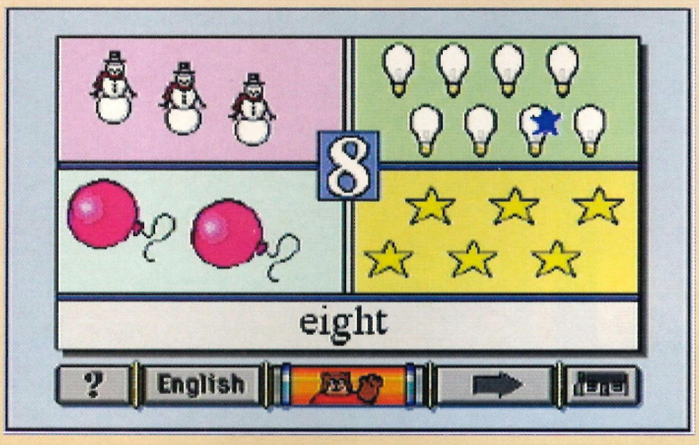
In the numbers section, if you press on a particular number, that many objects will appear on screen. And if you want to colour in a picture or find out the names of different shapes, you can do that too.

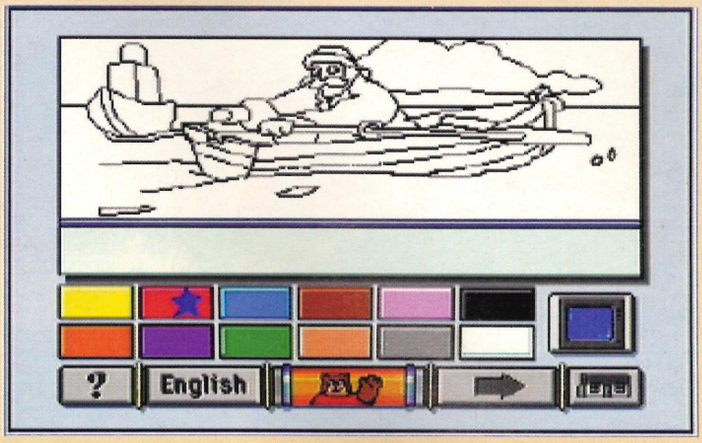
After you have explored a while, you can then get Stickybear to ask you questions. So he might ask you to press on the letter K in the alphabet section, and if you do it correctly, a kangaroo will appear. Similarly, he may ask you to choose a particular number, and if you get the right answer, that number of objects will appear on screen.

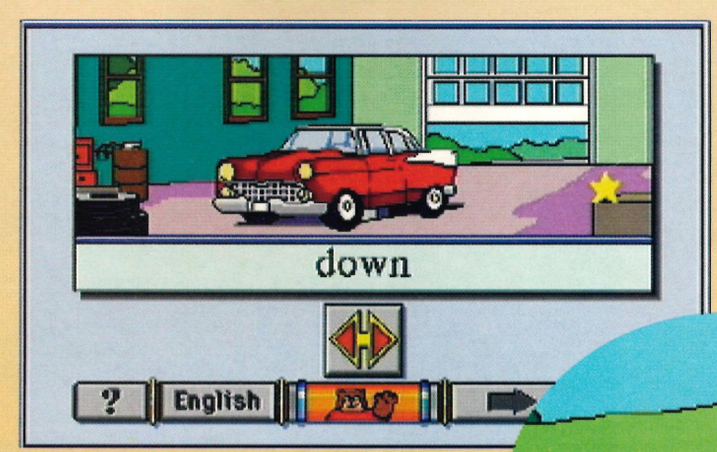
This is an ideal way for young children to familiarise themselves with words, letters and numbers and should provide many hours of fun. It certainly beats watching "ordinary" television!

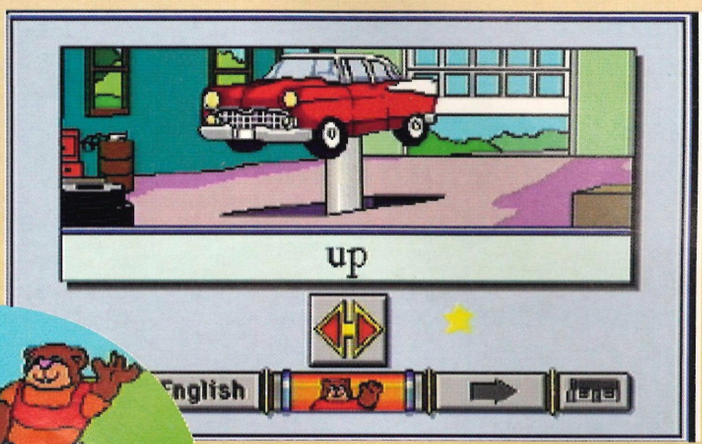
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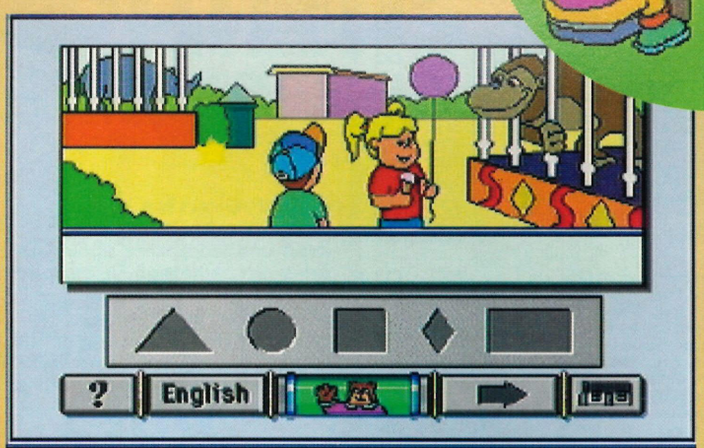

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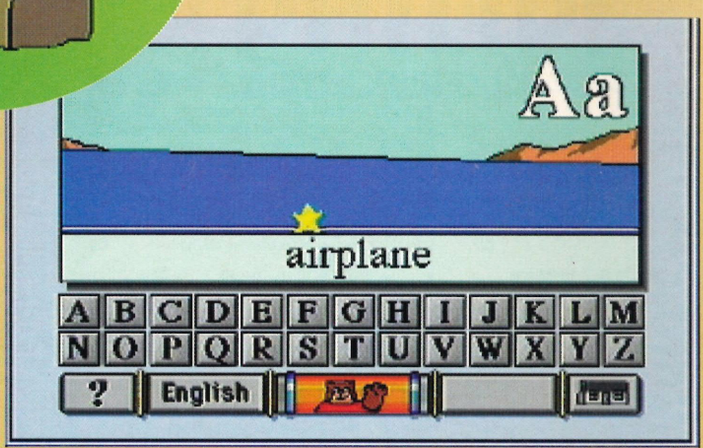

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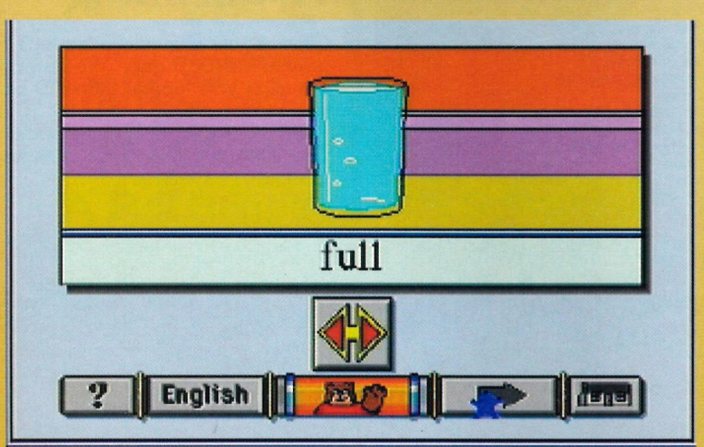

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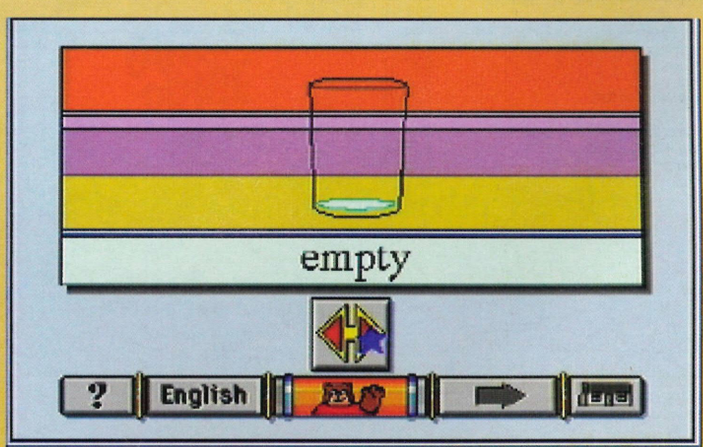

up
English




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airplane
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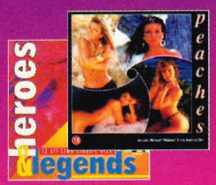
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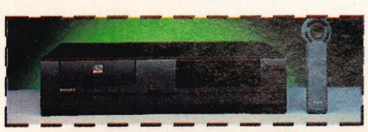
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ANDY CLOUGH tries his hand as an international antiques dealer, then joins astronomer Patrick Moore and actor Tom Baker on a tour of the solar system





WHAT'S IT WORTH?

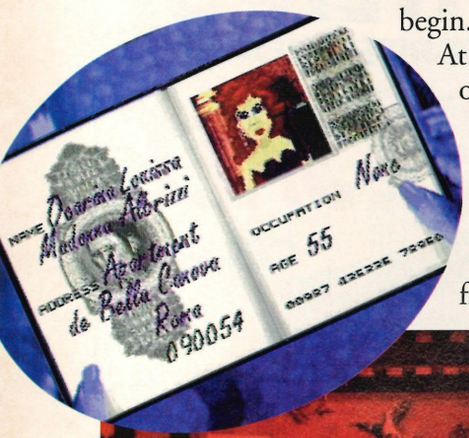
Marshall Cavendish Multimedia and developer Spice have joined forces to create this antiques auction game which can best be described as a sort of interactive Antiques Roadshow.

The aim is to build up a collection of objects which will have the greatest value at the end of the game. You may bid against other real players or CDi players. A maximum of six people can play.

Before the auctions begin, you must select your own character from one of six somewhat bizarrely named possibilities: Hisashi, Nancy, Prudence, Alexy, Nestor or Ocarina. Don't ask me where those came from!

Once you have selected your character, and the number of rounds you want to play (eight to 12), each character must choose between amateur, collector or expert status.

The auction will then begin.



At the beginning of each round, you are shown a list of the various lots available and will be given a fixed amount of money to play with. If you wish to bid, all you do is press on the bid icon and the auction will begin. Click on your own character if you wish to bid a specific amount called out by the auctioneer.



At the end of each round, the amount of money you have left will be shown above each character's head on the screen. There are regular updates on TV, the radio and in the newspapers about the state of the antiques market. You can also call up a list giving the total value of each player's collection so you can see how you are doing.

Before beginning each subsequent round, you may enter the other players' private rooms. Here you will have access to their bank statements, a valuation of the objects they have bought and additional information about their collection. If you are







inside your own room, you may review your own collection and decide which, if any, objects you want to sell to raise more cash. Those objects will be put up for auction in the next round.

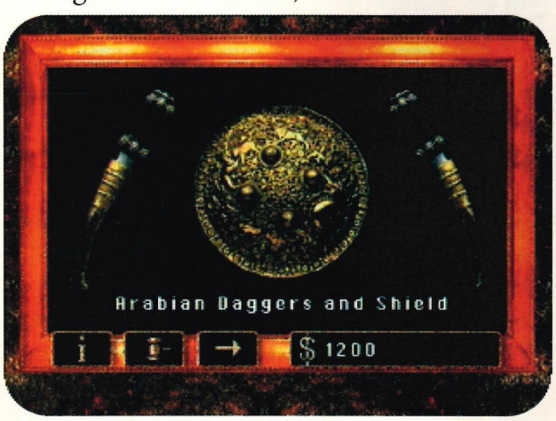
The game is relatively simple to play and is obviously more fun if you have lots of friends to compete against, rather than pitting yourself against the CDi machine. But fast and furious it is not. The amount of information given about each artefact is fairly minimal, and the graphics are, at best, rudimentary. Often, I found it difficult read the numbers on the screen.

Some of the auctioneers' voices are hilarious, too — try spotting their nationalities when they speak!

In the end, "What's It Worth?" is something of an oddity. It is partly a game, partly a reference title, but it fails to excel in either domain. Antiques Roadshow is certainly more informative, and there are undoubtedly better games about. Ultimately, it fails to get the adrenalin pumping because the speed of the auctions is so slow.

Produced by Epic/Marshall Cavendish Multimedia, published by Spice Multimedia

Rating: ☆☆
Cost: £24.99 Available: TBA (only available through selected outlets)



SOLAR SYSTEM

Wow, it's been a while since we last came across this one! We first previewed Solar System in our December 1993 issue and were beginning to think it had disappeared down a black hole of its own.



But, budding astronomers, fear not, the disc is now complete and nearly ready for release.

Little has changed since we first saw this title and the basic format remains the same. You are in charge of a spaceship which can transport you to nine planets or different asteroids and comets.

All you have to do is click on the planet of your choice — say Saturn — and world famous astronomer Patrick Moore will fill you in on some of the juicier details. For even more information, just select one of the smaller picture boxes which appear on the screen. These will throw up such scintillating facts as that planet's distance from the sun, density, mass, gravity or axial inclination.



This is a base-case title, so there are no video clips — which is a pity — but the quality of the still photography is excellent. Imagine flicking through an expensive coffee table book on the subject, and you'll get the picture.

Navigating through the disc is easy, as you can just return to the main menu to select a different planet. But being CDi, this disc is more than just a simple reference work. There are two introductory tours narrated by the actor Tom Baker: Mythology and the Planets, and the Formation of the Solar System. Both of these highlight some interesting facts. Did you know, for instance, that the sun has already burned for four and a half thousand million years? No, nor did I. And just in case you are worried, we are told that it will continue to burn for another five or six thousand million years!

If you get bored of your solar tour, there are two games to play: Gravity Golf and Planetball. These involve plotting the trajectory of a golf ball, or in Planetball a missile, to overcome the gravitational pull of the planets. Frankly, I found both games very basic and tired of them quickly.

But Solar System is an excellent reference title, stuffed with information, and for that alone deserves recommendation.

Produced by Multimedia Corporation

Rating: ☆☆☆
Cost: £29.99 Available: May







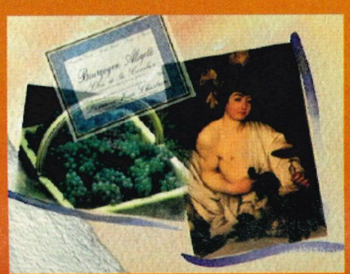
WINES OF FRANCE

The packaging alone sets this title apart from your average CDi disc. It comes in a very smart wooden box, complete with nine recipe cards from three of France's top chefs and a beautifully printed booklet. A lot of thought has gone into its production.

What we have here is effectively an electronic encyclopedia of wine. True wine buffs might find it a little simplistic, but for those who want to learn the basics of wine making, tasting, the history of wine and the different types available, it is a useful reference tool. There are nine sections to explore on the disc, including a glossary of terms, how to read a wine label, an index of wines, their region of origin and the name of the producer. Around 2000 wines are classified on the disc.

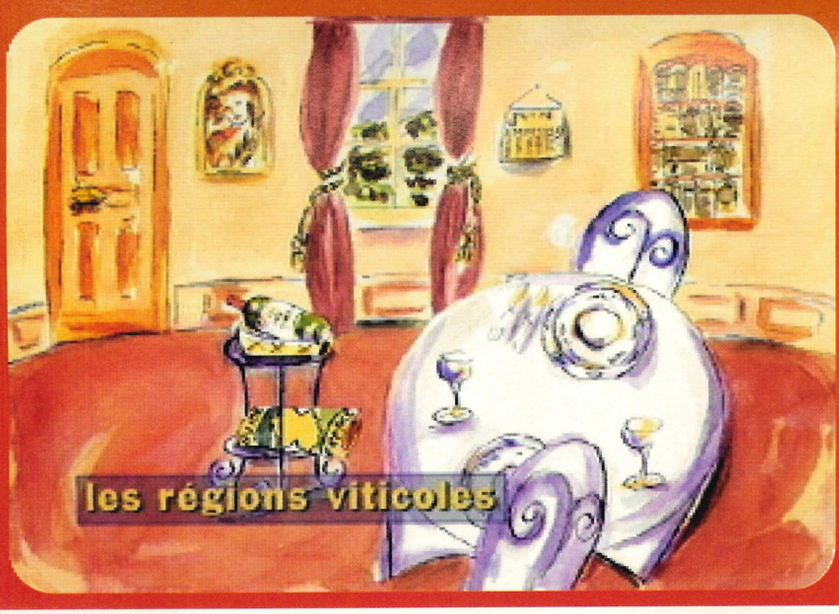
For the cooks among you, there is a selection of recipes to follow from three top French chefs: Alain Pic, Marc Haeberlin and Jean-Michel Lorain. But it is here that the disc falls down. There is no Digital Video, and the pictures used to illustrate the recipes are so small that you can hardly see them. I can't imagine anyone installing a TV and CDi player in their kitchen and trying to follow the recipes on screen.

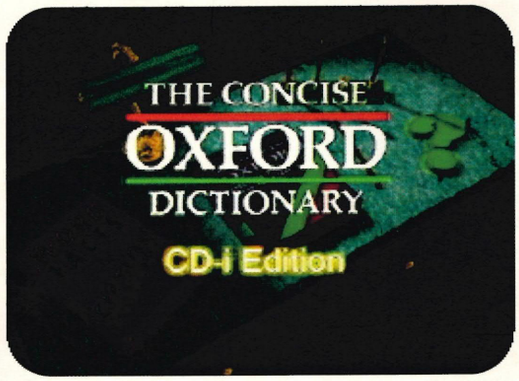
I have to say that we only had the French version of the disc available for preview, but the English version will be available here in May. Look out for a promotion with a major wine company when it is released. Overall, Wines of France is a nice idea, but it offers rather less than you would find in a good book on the subject.



Produced by Philips Media France

Rating: **
Cost: TBA Available: May 26

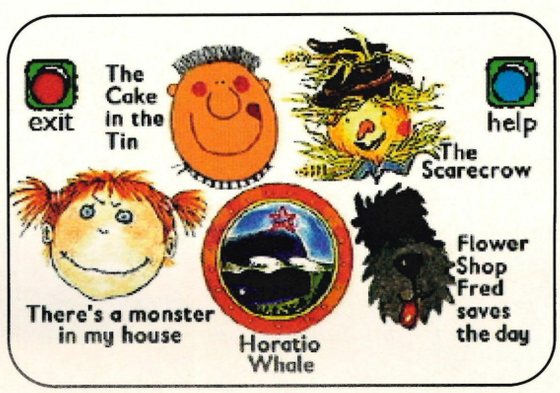




CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY

Philips is to release The Concise Oxford Dictionary and Thesaurus on a single CDi disc in June. For just £39.99 you can access 120,000 entries and 190,000 definitions using your CDi player.

All you have to do is click on the dictionary icon, key in the first few letters of the word you want using the cursor, and then highlight the word when it appears on screen. The correct definition will then be displayed. To find other words with a similar meaning, just click on the Thesaurus icon. If you want to hear the words pronounced properly, just click on the loudspeaker icon. It's incredibly simple and saves you having to thumb through your battered old dictionary trying to find that obscure word



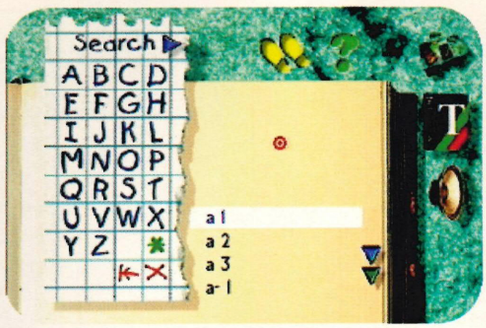
ROUTES TO READING

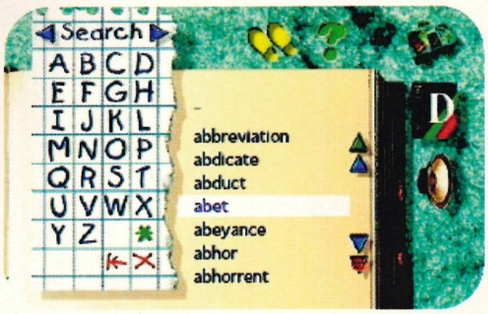
Collins Educational has teamed up with Philips Media to produce this illustrated reading disc for young children.

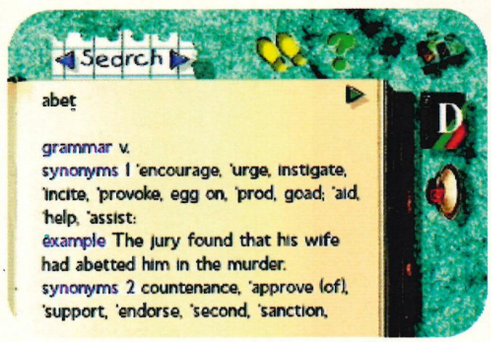
There are five stories to choose from: The Cake in the Tin, The Scarecrow, Flower Shop Fred, Horatio Whale and There's a Monster in My House. Viewers can listen to each story in one of three ways — hear it narrated, read along with the narrator or read it yourself. The spoken words are highlghted at the bottom of the screen.

In addition, there is a range of activities with each story to choose from. These include such skills as identifying different sounds, finding a rhyme or sorting out jumbled sentences. If you complete an activity correctly, you win a badge!









you want. To make the CDi version more interesting, Philips has included a word game where you have to highlight the correct definition of words to help improve your vocabulary. This CDi dictionary should prove an invaluable source for schools and libraries, as well as in the home or office.

Cost £39.99
Out: June



If you've played with other CDi titles such as Little Monster at School, you will have an idea of how this kind of disc works. The advantage of "Routes to Reading" is that it is a British title, so there are no American accents or funny spellings to confuse you! Ideal for young children who are learning to read.



Produced by Collins Educational

Rating: ☆☆
Cost: TBA Available: June



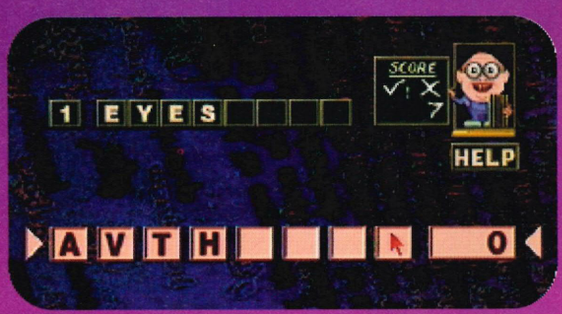
WORDPLAY

If "What's It Worth?" is a kind of interactive Antiques Roadshow, then "Wordplay" is simply a form of Scrabble on CDi. All you have to do is collect eight letters from your host, Bob, and when you can spell a word, place the letters in the correct order in the boxes at the top of the screen. Each letter has a numerical value, and if the word is correctly spelt, the value of that word will be added to your overall score. Once you have spelt a word, those letters will be removed from the screen and you can start to pick new ones. The winner is the first person to score 200.

It's a deceptively simple idea which is obviously aimed at the more cerebral games player. Up to four players can take part, so it is ideal family entertainment. Before you start, you can choose a minimum word length and can turn the background music on or off (personally I prefer to play with it off). This is a very simple title, but if you have young children who are learning to spell, this could be a fun, entertaining way to teach them.

Produced by Backs Electronics Publishing

Rating: ☆☆☆
Cost: £19.99
Available: now





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

Our guide to Burn:Cycle continues with part 2. Part 1 appeared in the February issue and part 3 will be published in June

Burn:Cycle

PLAYER'S GUIDE



ACT 2: GETTING TO THE TELEVERSE

5) SAVE GALA

Object: Shoot the bad guys before they kill you and Gala.

After you get the decoder and the derm, turn away from Zip, which triggers a film. You see Gala having a hassle with two tough guys. She tosses you a gun. Kill the guys before they kill you. If you survive, make a deal and arrange for her help later for cash. She gives you a pager to reach her, but there's only one location where she is useful.

6) THE HOTEL: EXTERIOR

Object: Get rid of the guard.

Go back into the street and approach the hotel. Stop when you see the guard pacing back and forth in front of the building. Access your inventory and click on the pager. In the close view of the pager, click on the pager button. Gala comes running and takes care of the guard. Search the guard and find a communication device.

7) THE HOTEL: GUARD BOX

Object: Figure out the code to the guard's communication device.

The communication device is called the guard box. Pull out the decoder card from your inventory and insert it into the guard box. Scroll around until you find 4 numbers that fit neatly into the 4 holes in the decoder card. Or just cheat and key in 1965. You must have the decoder card in the guard box before you can enter any numbers. There's a button on the top right of the guard box labelled TRANSMIT. Hit this button and an image of your face is transmitted to all the guard's mates. Do this 3 times and the guys work out where you are and toast you. Once you have cracked the code, the information about the building comes up. Click on ACCESS and Gala discovers a way to get in the back.

8) THE HOTEL: HALLWAYS

Object: Get to Cutter's room without getting blown away.

After Gala spots the way in, you end up at a space to which you cannot normally navigate. It's the rear service elevator. Go forward 3 times and enter. Explore this area in any other way and the guard kills you.
When the lift stops, hit the DOOR button to open up the door. You are in the hallway. Carry out the following directions exactly and you will end up in Cutter's room. Deviate and you will be shot by a guard.
Forward
Forward
Right
Forward
Forward

9) CUTTER'S ROOM: SAFE

Object: Solve the combination on the safe and open it before it blows up in your face.

You are in Cutter's room; approach the safe near the bed. View it close up. Once you get close, audio normally plays, telling you that there is a light silicon explosive coating on the safe. Take too long and it will blow up.
There are 3 bands of lines on the safe. There are yellow, red and green dots at the top and bottom. You need to scroll the graphics so that the top yellow dot connects with a single line to the bottom yellow dot.
Save your game before you do this puzzle as you might not solve it in time. Keep trying. When you have connected all the dots, a button appears on the left of the safe. Click and it opens up.
Inside the safe you find the following:
Cash;
Mystery green ball;
Green smoke bomb;
Lock breaker;
See-through smoke heads-up display (HUD.)
Take everything. When you take the HUD you automatically start wearing it.

10) CUTTER'S ROOM: GETTING OUT

Object: Find a way out of Cutter's Room without getting shot by a guard.

Turn around to face the door you have come in. Just to the right is an air vent. Move closer and click on it to open it up. Drag the green smoke bomb into the air vent, and you have an instant smoke screen. You need to use the HUD to see through the smoke so that you and Gala can find the exit. As you look through the eyeholes you will see a line just below which represents the visible spectrum. Above the line is a triangular pointer. Its position shows the setting at which the HUD must be for you to see through the smoke. Below the line is

another pointer which adjusts the setting of the HUD. Grab this pointer and the other pointer begins moving. Drag the below-the-line pointer around so that it keeps pace with the other pointer. When the two are close enough, you move through the smoke. Keep doing this until you reach the end of the navigation sequence, then let up on the action button. You are now outside the hotel. You pay off Gala, and still have cash left over to pay Zip. Head to the Sum Zero bar again.

11) SUM ZERO BAR: SECOND ZIP ENCOUNTER

Object: Get the new fuse from Zip.

Go over to talk to Zip again. He is awake now. Give him the cash he wants and he will give you a new fuse for your lifter. Go back to the lifter pad.

12) FIXING THE LIFTER ENGINE

Object: Install the new fuse and fix the engine by arranging the mirrors so that the beam bounces off all four blue contact points.

Open up the back of the lifter again. Hit the OPEN button and drag the new fuse into the slot. Hit the CLOSE button, and the RAD HAZ panel opens up. Three little disc mirrors appear on a grid.
To get the lifter working, rearrange these so that when you hit the TEST button, the beam bounces off the mirrors and hits the top, right, and bottom contact points. It is not easy.
A basic hint: when they are in the correct positions, the mirrors are near the centre of the grid, side by side, in a row. The middle mirror is slightly lower than the left mirror, and the right mirror is higher than the other two. (If by some wild chance you find this easy, try doing it with only two mirrors. It is possible.)
Give up? We're leaving in a cheat hotspot. Want to know what it is? Sure? OK. Put the cursor over the letter B in the text under the RAD HAZ panel. Push action button one, then two, then one, then two. The mirrors are now in the correct positions.
Once you've rearranged the mirrors correctly and fired the test beam, you take off automatically. Be ready to shoot again.

13) SHOOT-OUT OVER THE STREET

Object: Survive more flying mines.

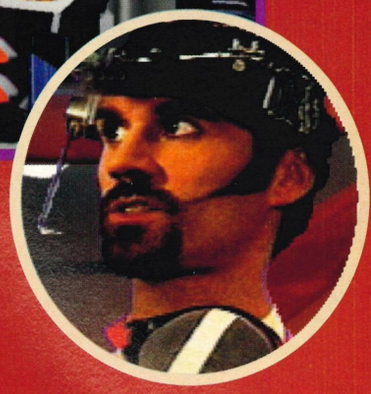
This time, someone's shooting at you from the street. Lead and fire at the mines as before. If you survive, you end up at the Ex-Urb Site, ie Doc's.

14) DOC'S LOCK

Object: Use the lockbreaker you took from the hotel safe to open Doc's door.

Leave the lifter and manoeuvre over to Doc's door. It's locked. Drag the lockbreaker from your inventory and on to Doc's door. Press the button on the lockbreaker, it opens up exposing a system of arrows and colours.
The lockbreaker puzzle is a bit like the game of MasterMind. To the right, there are 5 percentage indicators. On the top, left, and bottom are 3 sets of numbers 1 to 5, coloured red, green and black respectively. Click on a number and a coloured bar shoots out over the row it governs. The bars of the green numbers shoot automatically to the percentage counters on the opposite side of the grid. To make the bars of the red and black numbers reach the percentage counters, use 1 of the 4 types of arrows to the left of the grid. Drag an arrow into a grid block, then click the number that is even with the unpointed end of the arrow. The coloured bar is redirected in the direction of the arrow's point.
The object is to get all 4 percentage counters to 100%. When a coloured bar hits a counter, it registers one of three values: 0%, 50% or 100%. An 0% means that neither the colour nor the number of the bar is correct; 50% means that either the colour or the number is correct, and 100% means that both are correct.
The solution is different each time you play the game. You should be able to solve it fairly quickly by trial and error. When all percentage counters hit 100%, you've cracked the lock, and the door opens automatically.



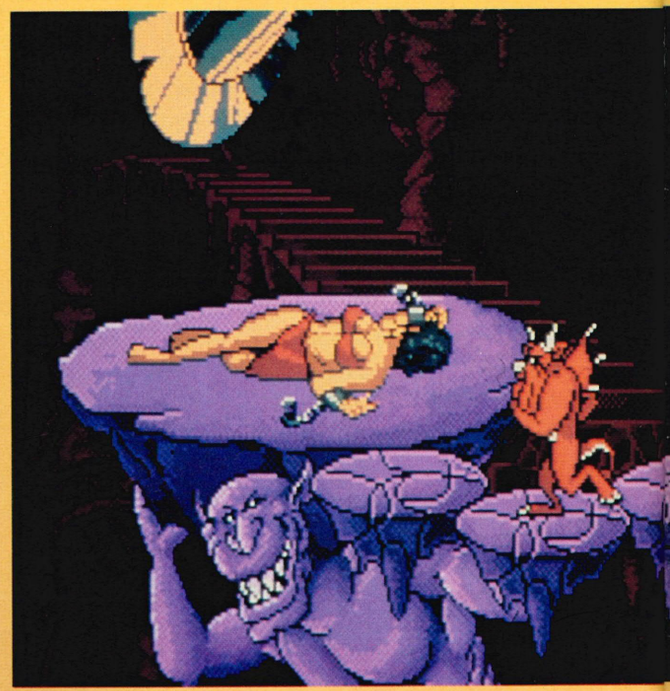


15) WHAT'S THAT GREEN BALL THING FOR?

Object: Use Doc's devices to find out what is that green ball you got from the safe.

Enter Doc's. A movie plays and he leaves to prepare the scanner. You can't follow him yet. Turn right to face the hologram contraption and move forward to access it. It opens up. Drag the green ball into the contraption and move back. It closes. Now you can move towards the panel to the right of the machine.
Use the arrows on the right of the panel to move the 3D image around in the scanner. Fiddle with it until you see an image of the tatoo that you saw on the back of the person who was shot in the flashback movies. You can then move back into the main view of the room.
Now that you've seen the tatoo, Doc has finished preparing the scanner. You can enter the scanning room now.
From here, Doc scans you into the Televerse, where an image of Kris greets you. You are now at the Pulse — the centre of the Televerse.
Unfortunately, the scanning process didn't quite catch all of you. You have 3 holes in you that need filling. You have to figure out where your missing bits of code are and reintegrate them into yourself.

STEVE HAYES and DARREN HEDGES complete their guide to Litil Divil. Part 1 appeared in our December issue and part 2 in February



Litil Divil

PLAYER'S GUIDE

LEVEL 5

69) Beat the bridge guardian with your stick.

70) Choose the left tunnel. Continue, turn into the first tunnel on your left again and enter the Save Room. Remember the exact position of this room. Leave the Save Room and continue. Go into the Chess Room.

71) In the Chess Room, you have to blow up the wizard who sits on an eyeball and chases you around the room. The wizard must be blown up 3 times to complete the game. Press button 1 to drop bombs on the wizard's path. You can only use 1 bomb at a time. The bombs detonate after about 5 seconds. If you stand still for too long, the floor sucks you up. If you are sucked up or caught 3 times, you are sent back to the tunnels. Exit through the opening formed by the chess pieces at the top of the chess board.

72) Enter the second tunnel on your left and turn left again. Open the door to the Rodeo Room.

73) In the Rodeo Room, you must keep Mutt on the back of a bucking bull. Therefore, you have to match the bull's movements. Move the joystick down if the bull moves his head down. For the first few moves you can look at the indicator in the upper right corner. To mount the animal, you must place Mutt next to it and press a button. If you win this game, the skeletons on the fence give you a hat and guns. You will find the hat in the inventory.

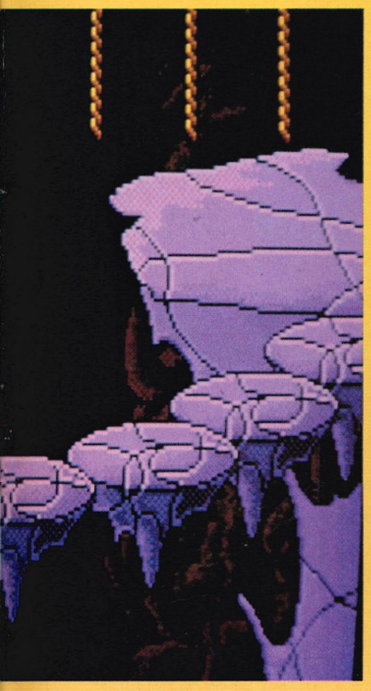
74) You will notice that some traps light up. If you enter them, you are transported to another position in the same maze or to one of the other mazes. Once you have explored the entire maze you jump into lighting gap 1. You are now transported to maze 2 (trap 3).

75) Turn back, choose the first tunnel on your left and then choose the left tunnel again. Enter the Goodies Room. Buy all the objects: watering can (2000); spear with axe (2500); Greek helmet (234); message on pamphlet (908); painting (786) and the grenade (11.111). Leave the Goodies Room and enter the Garden Room.

76) In the Garden Room you must jump across flowers that can eat you up to the exit (follow the bottom left pathway). To jump on to a flower you must face it, press button 1 and push the joystick in the direction of the flower. Be quick or you will be eaten. You must also avoid the white balls that the daisies spit out, which then bounce on to the flowers. It is best to jump on the first daisy immediately after it spits out a ball. But first you must reach the flowers. Press a button. Mutt takes the watering can you sold in the Goodies Room and waters a flower. The flower grows and you can then jump on to the other flowers.

77) Enter the Bar Room.

78) In the Bar Room you must shoot the bartender and the skeleton gunner with the gun you received in the Rodeo Room. Press button 1 to use your firearm. Shoot the bartender when he has come out from behind the bar. Move to the left of the room to shoot him. Dodge



the bullets that are fired at you and avoid the holes that are cut in the floor. When you have killed the bartender, the skeleton appears. Once you have killed it you must take the key. You can't leave the room without the key.

79) Take the gold and enter lighting trap 4. You are transported to maze 3 (trap 5).

80) Enter the Medusa Room.

81) The Medusa throws fireballs at you. You must kill her by reflecting these fireballs with your shield (keep button 1 pressed to hold up the shield). Meanwhile, snakes crawl around on the floor trying to touch you. Go into the snake mouth so that you can leave the room.
Take the gold and jump into lighting trap 6. You are transported to maze 4 (trap 7).

82) Take the gold and continue. Turn left and go to the left again. You see lighting trap 8. Continue and turn left. You see lighting trap 9. Explore the rest of the tunnels and return to lighting trap 8. Jump into the gap to reach maze 5 (trap 10).

83) Explore the south of the maze. You will find lighting trap 11. Enter the Real Dark Room. This resembles the Dark Room of level 4. This time, however, the lights are out. You must use the flashlight, which you got in the spider room, to light up the walkway. Lighting flashes will give you an overview of the labyrinth. The exit is at the top of the playfield (the platform with the 2 half circles).

84) Explore the upper part of the labyrinth. Jump into trap 12 to reach maze 6 (trap 13).

85) Walk to the right and enter the Demon Room.

86) Run along the spine runway towards the trampoline. Put Mutt on the red area facing the trampoline and press button 1. Press button 1 again as soon as you reach the trampoline. If your timing is perfect Mutt bounces on it and hits the teeth of the demon. Don't stand still or you will be killed by a snake. You must hit the teeth 4 times to win.

87) Jump into trap 15 to enter maze 7 (trap 16).

88) Explore the maze and enter the Arena.

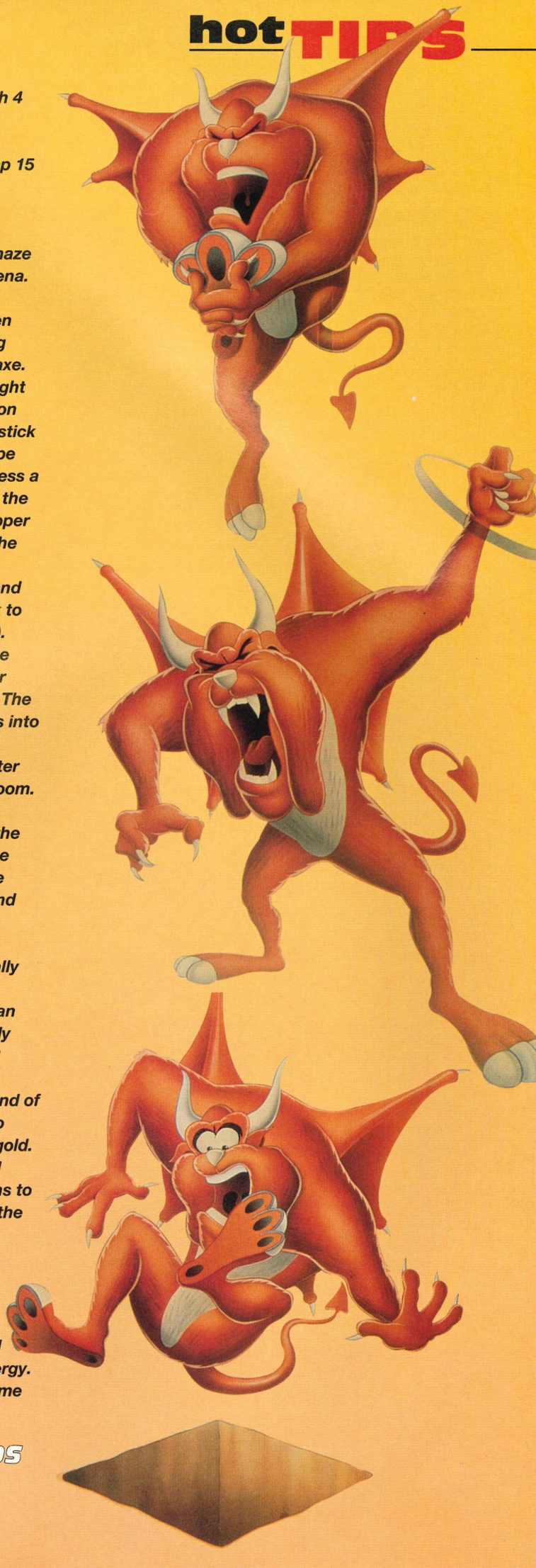
89) Beat the green swordsman using your spear with axe. You can jab straight out (press a button and push the joystick to the right), swipe from the side (press a button and push the joystick to the upper right) or smash the axe downwards (press a button and push the joystick to the bottom right). Jump to avoid the fireballs that your enemy spits out. The swordsman turns into a carpet and you automatically enter the Lost Souls Room.

90) Walk across the room and give the watering can, the spear with axe and the cowboy hat.

91) You have finally reached the overworld. But can you trust that lady with the snakes?

Remark: At the end of level 5 there is no hand asking for gold. So you only need enough gold coins to buy the items in the Goodies Room.
General remark: Sometimes you are killed in the tunnels although you still have enough energy. Just save from time to time.

GAME ENDS



letters

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

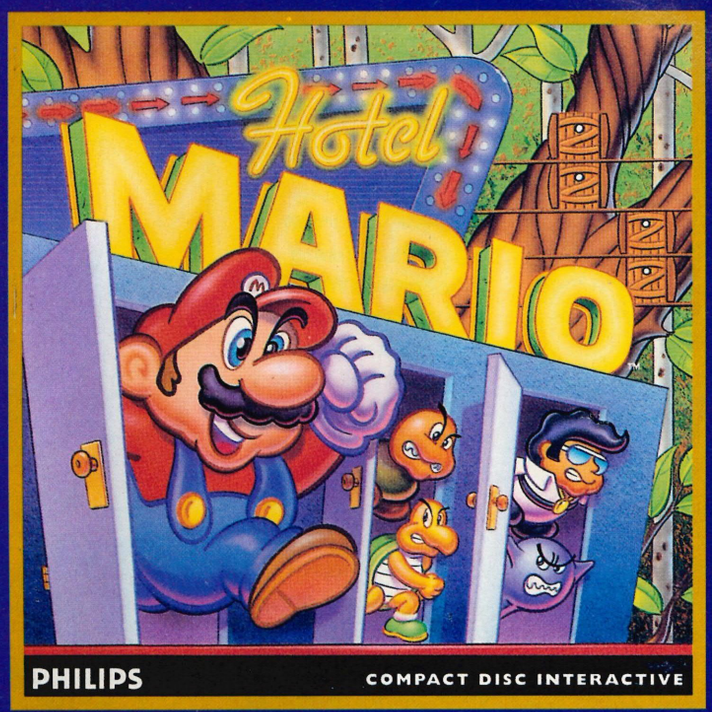
a question of sport

Please can you help me with a few enquiries.
1) Will Philips bring out any sports simulations in the future? Could you name some? Will they need the Digital Video cartridge?
2) Will there be any other form of expansion for CDi as well as the DV cartridge? If so, will there be any special games for DV plus the extra expansion?
3) The encoding has been poor in the Video CD titles I have bought. Are there films available with better encoding?
4) Is there a converter that would allow you to play CD-ROM games on CDi?

Mark McLaughlan
Glasgow

Philips will release World Cup Golf later this year. I know of no plans for an additonal expansion slot at this stage. The quality of Video CD encoding is improving all the time, but it is a very complex process (see our technical article, issue 10). CD-ROM games cannot be played on a CDi player.

ED



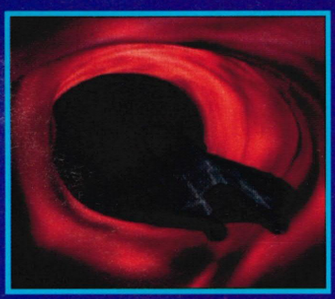
Fair exchange: fancy swapping Hotel Mario for Alien Gate?

swap shop

Bravo on the superb magazine. I find the excellent reviews help me decide what to get next. What a great idea to swap discs — issue 4, letters page. I have completed my games and would be keen to swap any of the following: Dark Castle, Alien Gate, Phantom Express and Zombie Dinos from Planet Zeltoid, for: Escape from Cyber City, Burn-Cycle, Hotel Mario, Lemmings, Inca and Striker, or any other good games.

I can be contacted on: 0935 824577.

Christian Bisgrove



Technical problems

microcosm mystery

I eagerly wait for each issue of CDi magazine. In one of your early editions you had a preview of Microcosm, which I thought looked fantastic. I have watched in dismay as it has been released in other formats, such as PC, but not in CDi. Could you please try to find out what has happened to it? Also, what happened to the cover disc you promised for your February issue?

Adam Hardacre
Preston

Microcosm has been cancelled due to insurmountable technical problems. We had to abort our February cover disc for legal reasons.

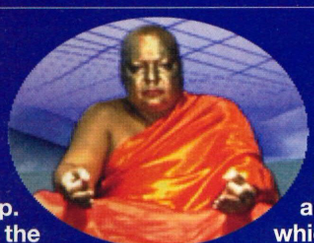
ED

hitting the hotline

Please don't suggest I phone the Philips hotline as you told Jamil Bhatti in the December issue. I have phoned them and the answer was useless.
My problem is with Burn:Cycle. I am Sol Cutter, I'm in Nirvana standing before a gold Buddha with a tree. I have moved the weights around in every permutation and each time I click on the icon with circles I get nothing except in one position.
When I am in the position of large weight above small weight and click on the central icon, a leaf glows red and a voice says: "OK. Easy now, easy now."
I have positioned the weights differently, I've used no weights, one weight, two weights and three weights, but no other leaves light up. I have even started the game again from the beginning. I've altered the order I approach Nirvana, the Cortex and the Comport. When the Buddha says: "Learn to look beyond the obvious", believe me I have. Could the disc be defective?

A Budd
South Hams, Devon

I wish to complain about the Philips hotline as mentioned on page 53 of issue 9. I was stuck with Burn:Cycle and rang the Clubline for help.



All I got was news about a competition repeated time and again, which was no help to me whatsoever.
Perhaps you can answer these simple questions.
1) How do I get into the hotel?
2) How do I talk to Zip?

S Dowson
Cleethorpes

We published part 1 of our player's guide to Burn:Cycle in issue 10. Part 2 is in this issue; part 3 will appear in June. See News for info on the hotline.

ED

wider vision

I have a CDi player with DV cartridge and I would like to ask some questions.
1) What is the difference between LaserDisc and CDi?
2) What is meant by the term encoding?
3) Do you plan to bring the magazine out each month?

Jason Pearce

LaserDisc is an analogue system which uses large 12" discs to play films. CDi is a digital system which uses a standard 5" CD to play films and computer games on a CDi player. Encoding is the term used to describe the process by which video is transferred onto CD. We have no plans to publish the magazine monthly.

ED

Madonna's bedtime stories

I was given the video CD title "In Bed with Madonna" as a gift recently. As a big fan of Madonna I had seen the film many times on video, and was thrilled to know that I could fast-forward to any section of the disc and watch my favourite parts of the film repeatedly. I was disappointed to find that a chunk of the video movie was missing from the CD version. On the back it states the approximate time as 120 minutes although the actual length is about 1 hour 45 minutes — almost 15 minutes are missing. Why? Is this an error, and can I exchange my copy for the full-length version? It is a pity that the only Madonna title available on CDi is an edited version.

Steve Stratton
Basildon

The Madonna disc was produced by VCI. I suggest you contact them on 0923 255558.

ED

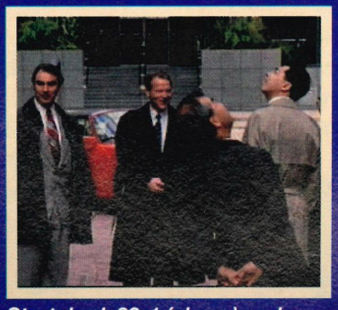


Vital statistics: "In bed with Madonna" — shorter on video CD?

screen stretch

I own a CDi 220 player and a first generation DV cartridge. I am having problems with the so-called White Book standard Video CDs. When I bought "Naked Gun", I noticed that the image didn't fill the whole screen at the sides, but that it stretched from top to bottom. The same happens with "A Fish Called Wanda", "The Krays", "Indecent Proposal", "Apocalypse Now"and the "99-1" episode on the CD Vision disc which came free with issue 8.

What steps is Philips taking to remedy the situation?





Stretched: 99-1 (above) and Apocalypse Now (below)

Geoffrey Clegg
Blackpool

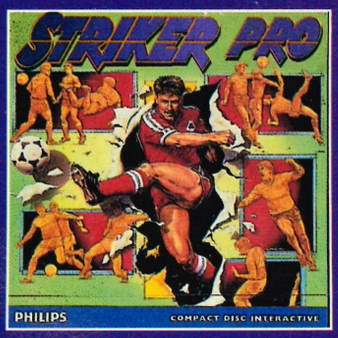
This only affects a few very early cartridges. You need to exchange your existing DV cartridge for a newer White Book one. Call Philips on 0181 689 4444 for further details.

ED

two's company

Could you answer a few questions please?
1) Is there going to be a CDi release of "The Mask"? If so, when can we expect it?
2) Why hasn't Philips or other software companies made any CDi games for two players? Is anyone planning to do so? Mutant Rampage or Mad Dog McCree could have been made into two-player games. Surely two-player games would make CDi for popular and make it more interactive for groups.
3) Are there plans to make a joystick, not a joypad?

Andy
Somerset



It takes two: Striker Pro is ideal for two players

The Mask is not on our current release schedule. Philips DOES sell two-player games: International Tennis Open, Striker Pro, Caesars World of Boxing and Phantom Express are all two-player games, and more are planned. I know of no plans for a CDi joystick at this stage — Philips says most consumers prefer a game pad.

ED

in seventh heaven



I am a newcomer to the world of CDi and have been playing 7th Guest for hours. I could solve the first few puzzles, but had to keep going to the library to solve the later ones.
Do any back issues of CDi cover the solutions, or even tips for 7th Guest?
Do you intend to feature free CDs in the future?

CS Thornton
Lincoln

Solutions to the 7th Guest puzzles are in issue 8.

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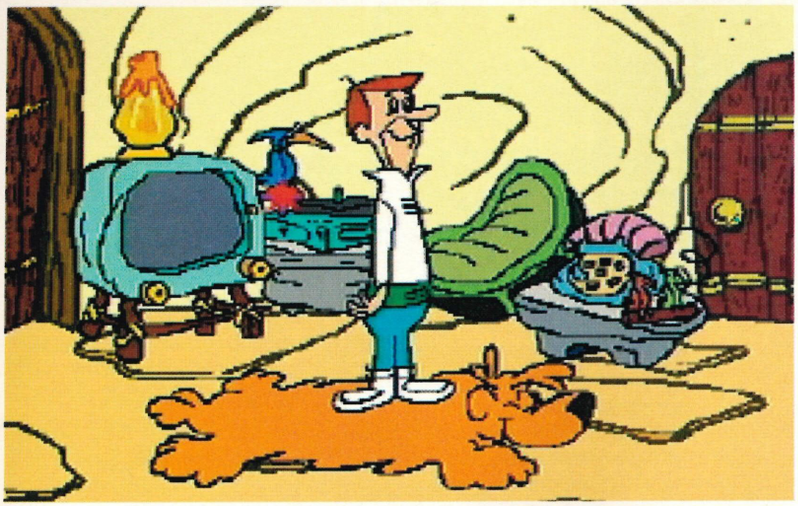
touchpad troubles

Recently my girlfriend and I bought a CDi 450 which came with The 7th Guest and a CD of our choice. We chose Kether.
Call us old and slow if you like, but we both find it hard to manoeuvre quickly with the touchpad without hitting things. We also found that when you do move quickly, sometimes your thumb hits action button two which pauses the game.
Will it be possible to buy a joystick which is compatible with the CDi 450 in the near future? Or is there one on the market already?
I realise there is a new touch pad controller, but I would still prefer a joystick as I am more familiar with one.

Steve Learl
Bournemouth

There is no CDi joystick on the market, but the new games pad costs £24.99.

ED



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KISS
An electronic magazine for teenage girls with tips on fashion, make-up and health.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 811 004 7

LITTLE MONSTER AT SCHOOL
The interactive version of the popular children's book.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 017 1

MAX MAGIC
The first electronic magic set that allows children to amaze their family and friends with tricks that boggle the mind.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 019 1

MORE DARK FABLES FROM AESOP
Twelve more tales narrated by Danny Glover.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 086 2

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 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 690 016 2

MUZZY (DV)
A hugely popular BBC TV series debuts on CDi. A simple and fun way for young children to learn French.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 810 008 4

PAINT SCHOOL 1
Choose from several hundred scenes to paint.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 690 009 2

PAINT SCHOOL 2
More pictures to paint using the CDi's enormous colour palette.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 690 002 2



PECOS BILL
A colourful retelling of the legend of Pecos Bill – the fearless buckaroo. Narration by Robin Williams.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 012 2

RICHARD SCARRY'S BUSIEST NEIGHBOURHOOD DISC EVER
Explore the wonderful world of Busytown.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 038 2

RICHARD SCARRY'S BEST NEIGHBOURHOOD DISC EVER
The second in the popular series. Visit the library, the fire station or your home.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 037 2

ROUTES TO READING
Interactive learning for young readers. Contains five popular story books from Collins' Bookbus series and associated activities. **(May)**
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 005 0

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 Cat. No. 690 022 2

SANTA CLAUS'S MICE
A Christmas fairy story.
Price £15.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 811 002 5

SOUNDTRAP
Second in the series of interactive learning discs. This one

explores the creation of different sound waves.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 003 2

STICKYBEAR MATHS
Children help the Stickybear family succeed in this animated adventure by solving problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication and division.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 006 4

STICKYBEAR PRE-SCHOOL
Encourage your pre-schooler's natural inquisitiveness and budding independence with this great learning title.
Price £24.99 Cat.No. 810 021 8

STORY MACHINE MAGIC TALES
Create your own fairy tales or adventure stories by adding your own scenes, characters, narration and dialogue.
Price £24.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 690 024 2

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

THE 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 Cat. No. 690 042 2

TIM & BEAR AT THE AIRPORT
Learning adventures with Tim and his cuddly toy bear on their first journey to an airport.
(May)
Price TBA Cat. No. 810 007 0

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 Cat. No. 811 000 9

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

CHILDREN'S VIDEO CD

LEARN WITH SOOTY (VCD)
This popular character has been delighting children for over 50 years. This Start to Read disc was devised in consultation with educational specialists.
Price £12.99 Cat. No. 380 900 7

THE BFG (VCD)
Based on the best-selling novel by Roald Dahl. A full length animated film featuring the voice of David Jason as the Big Friendly Giant.
Price £12.99 Cat. No. 380 900 6

THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS (VCD)
A Tale of Two Toads. This feature length story is brought to life by the voices of Peter Sallis and David Jason.
Price £12.99 Cat. No. 380 900 8

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 Cat. No. 690 065 2

ALIEN GATE
Hordes of nasty monsters are advancing through the Alien Gate with one objective – the destruction of your world.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 004 9

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 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 690 033 2

BURN:CYCLE
Sol Cutter has passed out in the Softech Corporation where his brain has been downloaded with a computer virus. A live action cyberpunk game.
Price £44.99 Cat. No. 810 011 4

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

CAESARS WORLD OF GAMBLING
Experience the real sights and sounds of the Caesars Palace casinos.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 690 027 2

CD SHOOT
Practise your clay shooting skills.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 811 001 4

CHAOS CONTROL (DV)
This fast-paced arcade game with 5 different levels is based entirely on computer graphics in which the aim is to defeat an alien fleet which is invading the solar system.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 810 020 0

CLUEDO (DV)
While remaining faithful to the original board game, Cluedo on CDi is a slick and polished electronic game for all the family.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 819 100 2

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

DEFENDER OF THE CROWN
The Saxon lords have chosen you to lead them in the fight against the hated Normans.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 690 069 2

DIMO'S QUEST
Dimo takes you on a "candy quest" as you battle your way through an increasingly difficult series of mazes.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 016 6

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

DRAGON'S LAIR 2 (DV)
Dirk the Daring is back in this madcap sequel to the original Dragon's Lair.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 810 012 5

EARTH COMMAND
Your task is to save the world from impending environmen-





tal disaster. By adjusting population growth, taxes and environmental policies you can prevent Armageddon.
Price £34.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 690 071 2

FLASHBACK
2142 AD. Battle your way back to Earth to stop the invading mutant forces... FlashBack: the ultimate test in survival – the ultimate platform game. **(June)**
Price: £34.99 Cat. No. 811 020 2

HOTEL MARIO
The world's most popular plumber makes his debut on CDi. Seven different locations and 80 levels to explore.
Price £34.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 810 012 6

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

KETHER
Stunning graphics in this mix of arcade action and puzzle solving.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 810 012 8

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

LEMMINGS
The classic game! Prevent these furry little creatures from killing themselves in over 100 dangerous and puzzling scenes.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 810 011 1

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 Cat. No. 810 008 0

LITIL DIVIL (DV)
Poor old Mutt must work his way through the Labyrinth of Chaos where he has to find the Mystic Pizza of Plenty. A game of exploration, fighting and puzzle solving.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 810 016 9

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

MAD DOG McCREE (with gun) (DV)
A quality shoot-'em-up set in a ramshackle Western town: if you're a real sharp-shooter, you'll end up blowing these guys away. Released with the Peacekeeper revolver.
Price £69.99 Cat. No. 810 008 9

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

MERLIN'S APPRENTICE
A mysterious, magical tale of medieval sorcery with over 30 different puzzles for all the family.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 810 019 2

MUTANT RAMPAGE (DV)
A good old-fashioned beat-'em-up set in a post-apocalyptic world. Fast and adrenalin-stuffed action.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 810 017 9

MYSTIC MIDWAY R.I.P
The "master of cemeteries" Dr Dearth welcomes you to his shooting gallery. 15 targets, and ten game levels.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 690 152 2

MYSTIC MIDWAY: PHANTOM EXPRESS
Join Dr Dearth, the Master of Cemeteries, on a roller coaster ride in the sequel to Mystic Midway.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 810 017 8

NFL ULTIMATE AMERICAN FOOTBALL COLLECTION
This 3 title-pack includes 100 Greatest Touchdowns, Hall of Fame and Trivia Challenge. **(May)**
Price: £39.99 Cat. No. 811 011 5

OTHELLO
The electronic version of the popular board game.
Price £24.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 690 013 2

POWER HITTER
Baseball challenge which puts you up against the game's great pitchers.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 811 001 7

SARGON CHESS
There are 16 levels of this chess program, or use the special novice level.
Price £29.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 810 007 3

STEEL MACHINE
A fast and furious shoot-em-'up with a hard core dance soundtrack.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 016 0

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 Cat. No. 811 004 4

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

TETRIS
The classic Russian puzzle game featuring ten levels of play and made popular by the ubiquitous Gameboy.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 690 188 2

TEXT TILES
A word spelling strategy game for all ages.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 690 043 2

THE 7TH GUEST (DV)
Virgin's fabulous mystery adventure game. With stunning sound and graphics,

the CDi version comes complete with CD soundtrack.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 811 004 0

THE APPRENTICE (DV)
A jump and run style platform game. Take control of the wizard's apprentice, Marvin, through his tasks which include running, jumping, flying and even swimming.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 810 019 9

THE ULTIMATE NOAH'S ARK
Explore in detail the wonderful painting by artist Mike Wilks and try to discover which animal does not have a mate.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 003 1

THE WHAT'S IT WORTH? AUCTION GAME
Challenge the CDi player or opponents by buying and selling objects at the auction and you can become the winner by having the most valuable collection. **(May)**
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 811 004 6

VIDEO SPEEDWAY
Motor racing game with ten tracks to choose from. The player can race karts, Formula 3000 or Formula 1.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 819 001 1

VOYEUR (18)
An adult political whodunnit. Spy on the house of Presidential character Reed Hawke and his family and find out who the real baddies are.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 810 016 2

THE WACKY WORLD OF MINIATURE GOLF
18 hole crazy golf game.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 810 013 5

WORD PLAY
A game for 2, 3 or 4 players. Collect from a pool of letters and compete against the other players to create words with these letters and gain points.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 819 100 4

ZELDA: WAND OF GAMELON
Rescue Link and save the world in this gripping adventure.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 810 009 6

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 Cat. No. 810 200 1

ANTISTATIC
More psychedelic music from Hex – rave visuals and groovy music.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 017 0

BRYAN ADAMS (DV)
The *Waking Up the Neighbours* video from Canadian Bryan Adams.
Price £15.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 810 200 3

CLASSICAL JUKEBOX
Study the lives of 15 of the world's classical composers and listen to their music.
Price £15.99 Cat. 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 Cat. No. 083 862 4

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

DAVID BOWIE: THE VIDEO COLLECTION (VCD)
A treat for Bowie fans – 26 stunning tracks.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 491 186 2

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

GOLDEN OLDIES JUKEBOX
Jump and jam to the tunes of the 1950s and 1960s. Lyrics appear with the music.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 006 2

HEADCRASH
A three disc pack including a brand new disc from Hex and two CDi best sellers, Anitstatic and e-Scape. **(May)**
Price £29.99 Cat.No. 811 005 6

JAMES BROWN
Soul singer Brown performs 13 songs on this CDi disc.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 000 6



JAZZ GIANTS
Big Band to Bossa Nova – an interactive jazz journey through 19 great songs.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 096 2

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

LOUIS ARMSTRONG
Explore the achievements and life story of Louis Armstrong as you listen to his music.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 031 2

OPERA IMAGINAIRE (VCD)
This title celebrates 400 years of opera through beautifully animated 'live-action' cartoon-like video together with 12 famous arias; for example *Madame Butterfly* and *Carmen*. **(May)**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 819 101 1

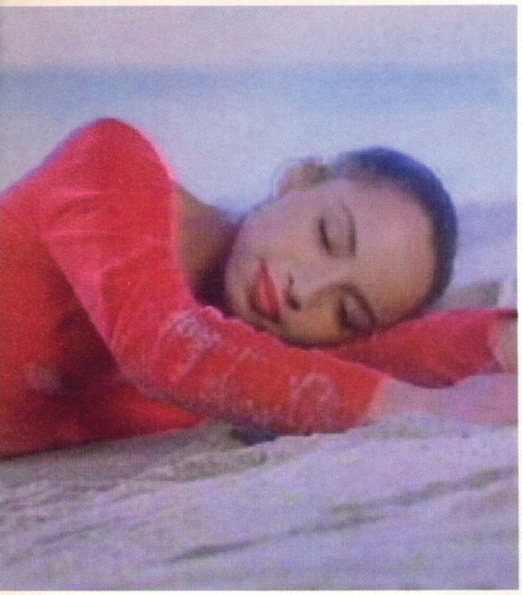
PAVAROTTI
Listen to the world-renowned tenor sing 13 favourite songs while you explore his life story.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 040 2

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

PINK FLOYD: THE WALL (DV)
Pink Floyd's mid-80's nightmare. Stupendous soundtrack.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 812 542 2

PETER GABRIEL – XPLORA (DV)
Peter Gabriel appears as your on-screen guide, helping you to explore the production of the music, videos and artwork behind his latest album 'US'. **(May)**
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 819 102 2

PRELUDE
Study the art and music of the era of Post-Impressionism.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 107 2



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

STING: TEN SUMMONER'S TALES (DV)
The full album with Digital Video and CD sound.
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 089 566 4

SADE – LIFE, PROMISE, PRIDE, LOVE (VCD)
14 track collection from this fabulous soul singer including *Your Love is King* and *Smooth Operator*.
Price: £17.99 Cat. No. OMN102

THE THE: INFECTED — THE MOVIE
The movie of the popular 1980s album *Infected* by The The. **(April)**
Price: £17.99 Cat. No. OMNI 104

THE THREE TENORS (DV)
Pavarotti, Carreras and Domingo in concert for opera fans.
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 071 427 4

THE WORLDS OF... (DV)
5 top bands from the *Rhythm King* label with DV clips, interviews & your own music mixer.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 003 8

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

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 Cat. 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.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 810 015 9

2 UNLIMITED: BEYOND LIMITS
One of the most successful acts of the international house scene, with eight audio tracks and five videos. This disc is a must for the serious rave fan.
Price £17.99 Cat. No.819 102 1

U2 – RATTLE AND HUM (VCD)
Captures U2 – on and off stage – during their giant Joshua Tree tour.
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 811 202 3

INFO & REFERENCE

A CHILD IS BORN
A complete childbirth and pregnancy manual based on the stunning photographs of Lennart Nilsson.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 810 005 0

ART OF THE CZARS
Visit the Russian city of St Petersburg, explore its architecture and study its art.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 690 105 2

CONCISE OXFORD DICTIONARY
The entire dictionary on CDi, plus the Thesaurus, a Dictionary of Synonyms, the spoken pronunciation of all 46,000 words, and a great word game to test your command of English. **(June)**
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 810 008 6

DUTCH MASTERS
Study 300 paintings from the art of 17th Century Holland.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 811 002 4

FOOD OF FRANCE
French cuisine presented by Anne Willan, founder of the world famous École de Cuisine la Varenne.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 005 5

GREAT BRITISH GOLF
Take an historical trip through 500 years of golfing history.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 811 000 4

HARVEST OF THE SUN (VINCENT VAN GOGH)
Discover the art and life of one of the greatest painters of all time.
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 690 028 2

PLAYBOY COMPLETE MASSAGE (DV)
Learn an exotic assortment of massage techniques that you can practise with your partner. Cert. **18**
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 008 8

PRIVATE LESSONS: CLASSICAL GUITAR
Learn to play classical guitar on CDi. Customise your lessons to match your skill level.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 810 001 3

PRIVATE LESSONS: ROCK GUITAR
Learn to play rock guitar on CDi. With examples from Jimi Hendrix to Eric Clapton.
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 811 003 0

REMBRANDT: HIS ART AND MUSIC OF THE ERA
17th Century art and music with information in seven languages: English, Spanish, French, German, Italian, Japanese and Dutch.
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 690 154 2

RENAISSANCE OF FLORENCE
Take a tour of the Renaissance art of Florence.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 690 036 2

RENAISSANCE GALLERY
An interactive tour through the masterpieces and music of the Italian High Renaissance.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 690 044 2

THE FRENCH IMPRESSIONISTS
A fascinating interactive tour through 19th Century Paris.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 690 046 2

THE JOY OF SEX (DV)
The famous sex guide by Dr Alex Comfort goes interactive in this Digital Video title. 30 minutes of full motion video. Free pocket guide with every disc. Cert. **18**
Price £29.99 Cat. No. 811 000 8

THE SOLAR SYSTEM
If star gazing is your thing, then throw away that dusty old telescope and join the futuristic world of CDi. Examine the planets from the comfort of your own armchair.
Price £27.99 Cat. No. 811 003 9

TIME LIFE ASTROLOGY
Obtain your daily horoscope & personal solar chart on CDi. Program in your details and let the machine do the rest.
Price £24.99 Cat. No. 810 013 6

TIME LIFE PHOTOGRAPHY
Turn your TV screen into a "camera" for a course in 35mm photography.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 690 017 2

TREASURES OF THE SMITHSONIAN
A guided tour around the world famous Washington Museum.
Price £39.99 Cat. No. 690 010 2

WINES OF FRANCE
The interactive guide to French wine and the French wine industry. **(May)**
Price TBA Cat. No. 810 024 7

WORLD OF IMPRESSIONISM
Explore the art and music of the era.
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 690 047 2

PHOTO CD

NATURE UNDER THREAT
The World Wide Fund for Nature's guide to animals in danger.
Price £9.99 Cat. No. 811 003 6

MOVIES

ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES (VCD)
Cert. **PG**
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 811 203 0

A FISH CALLED WANDA (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 200 3

AIRPLANE! (VCD) Cert. **PG**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 201 5

ALIVE (VCD) Cert. **PG**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 202 9

AN OFFICER AND A GENTLEMAN (VCD)
Cert. **15** (May)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 202 8

APOCALYPSE NOW (VCD)
Cert. **18**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 201 8

BEVERLY HILLS COP I & II (VCD)
Cert. **PG** (two films)
Price £34.99 Cat. No. 811 011 3

BLACK RAIN (DV) Cert. **PG**
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 100 9

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG
Cert. **PG** (May)
Price TBA Cat.No. 811 203 9

COMING TO AMERICA (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 200 5

CROCODILE DUNDEE 2 (VCD)
Cert. **PG**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 204 2

FATAL ATTRACTION (DV)
Cert. **18**
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 100 8

FLASHDANCE (VCD) Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No.811 204 3

GHOST (DV) Cert. **15**
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 100 6

IN BED WITH MADONNA (VCD)
Cert. **18**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 380 900 5

INDECENT PROPOSAL (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 200 2

MOONSTRUCK (VCD) Cert. **PG**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 201 7

THE NAKED GUN (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 200 1

NAKED GUN 2 1/2 (DV)
Cert. **15**
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 100 2

PATRIOT GAMES (DV)
Cert. **15**
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 100 4

PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 201 1

RAGING BULL (VCD)
Cert. **18** (May)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 203 3

RAIN MAN (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 202 6

SCROOGED (VCD)
Cert. **PG**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 202 5

SLIVER (VCD) Cert. **18**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 200 8

STAR TREK I (VCD)
Cert. **PG** (May)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 202 2

STAR TREK II (VCD)
Cert. **PG** (May)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 201 0

STAR TREK VI (DV)
Cert. **PG**
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 100 7

STRICTLY BALLROOM (VCD)
Cert. **PG**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 380 900 4

TERMS OF ENDEARMENT (VCD)
Cert. **15** (May)
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 206 6

THE ACCUSED (VCD)
Cert. **18**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 204 1

THE CRYING GAME (VCD)
Cert. **18**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 088 902 4

THE FIRM (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £19.99 Cat. No. 811 200 9

THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER (DV)
Cert. **PG**
Price £15.99 Cat. No. 811 100 3

THE JAMES BOND COLLECTION (VCD)
(three film pack) Cert. **PG**
Price £49.99 Cat. No. 811 005 3

THELMA AND LOUISE (VCD)
Cert. **15**
Price £17.99 Cat. No. 811 202 4

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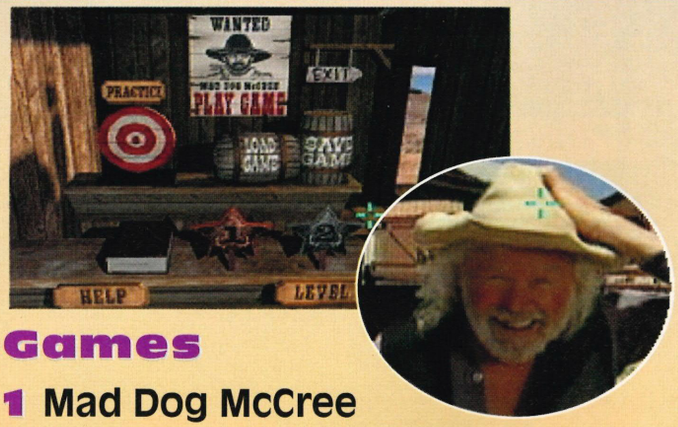
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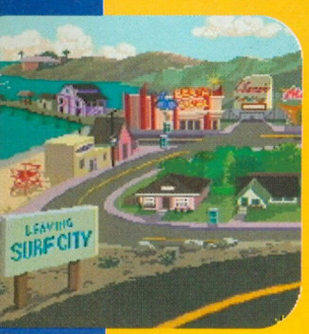


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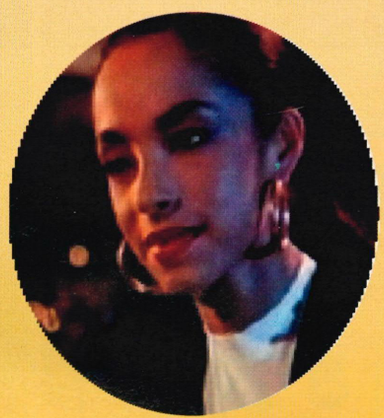


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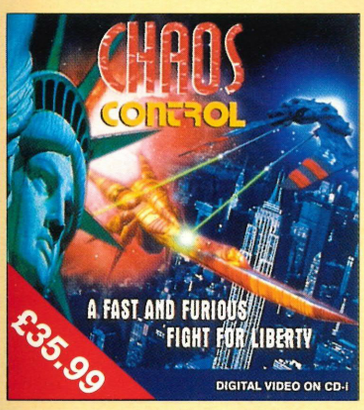


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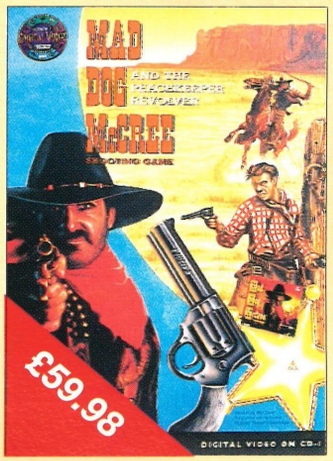


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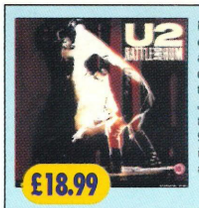
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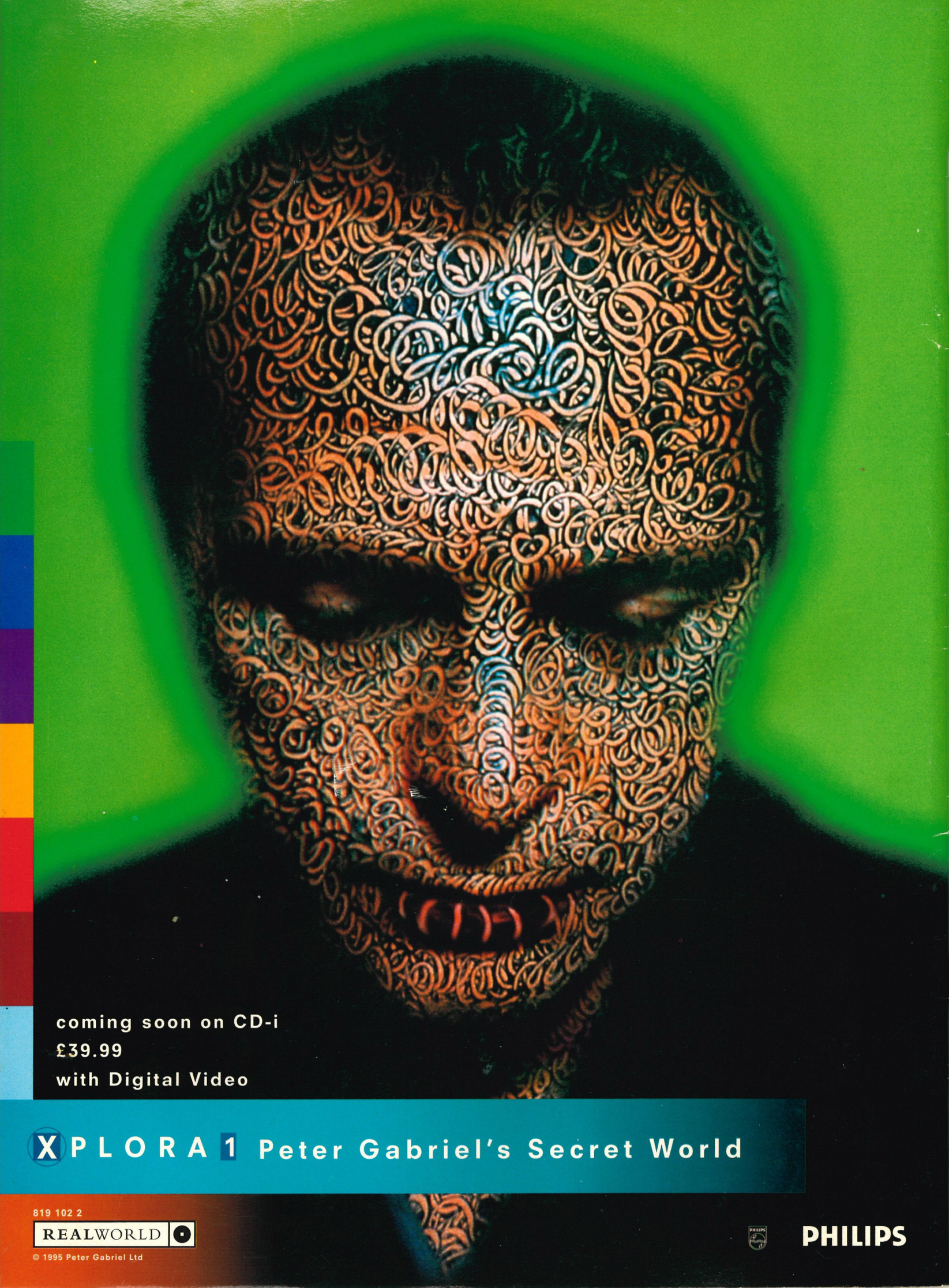
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