



# AV Newsletter

September/October 2011

## New DVDs

### SEPTEMBER

Bridesmaids. R  
Hanna. PG-13  
Thor. PG-13  
X-Men: First Class. PG-13

### OCTOBER

Bad Teacher. Not rated  
A Better Life. PG-13  
Captain America: The First Avenger. PG-13  
Green Lantern. PG  
The Hangover Part II. R  
Horrible Bosses. R  
Page One: Inside the New York Times. R  
Scream 4. R  
Super 8. PG-13  
The Tree of Life. PG-13

### NOVEMBER

Cars 2. G  
Friends with Benefits. R  
Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows, Part II. PG-13  
Larry Crowne. PG-13  
Kung Fu Panda 2. PG  
Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides. PG-13  
Sarah's Key. PG-13  
Snow Flower and the Secret Fan. PG-13  
Spy Kids 4. PG  
30 Minutes or Less. R  
Water for Elephants. PG-13

### DECEMBER

The Change-Up. R  
Cowboys & Aliens. PG-13  
Crazy, Stupid, Love. PG-13  
The Help. PG-13  
Midnight in Paris. PG-13  
Rise of the Planet of the Apes. PG-13  
The Smurfs. PG  
The Tempest. PG-13

## New CDs

### CLASSICAL

Anna Bolena—Gaetano Donizetti; La Scala Orchestra and Chorus  
The Pulitzer Project: Pulitzer Prize-Winning Works by Schuman, Sowerby & Copland—Grant Park Orchestra & Chorus  
Symphony No. 5—Anton Bruckner; Berlin Philharmonic

### POPULAR

4—Beyonce  
The Best of the Improv Recordings—Tony Bennett  
Buddy and the Juniors—Buddy Guy  
Drums Between the Bells—Brian Eno  
Duets—Barry Manilow  
Ghost on the Canvas—Glen Campbell  
Here I Am—Kelly Rowland  
Hillbilly Joker—Hank Williams III  
Jeff Bridges—Jeff Bridges  
Join Us—They Might Be Giants  
Legendary Weapons—Wu-Tang Clan  
Outside Society—Patti Smith  
Proud To Be Here—Trace Adkins  
Re-creation—Steven Curtis Chapman  
Songs from a Zulu Farm—Ladysmith Black Mambazo  
Standing on the Rooftop—Madeleine Peyroux  
Tha Carter IV—Lil Wayne  
The Suburbs—Arcade Fire  
Watch the Throne—Jay-Z and Kanye West  
Woody Allen & la Musique de Manhattan a Midnight in Paris—Various Artists  
Young Love—Mat Kearney

## Director Spotlight: Kenneth Branagh



Kenneth Branagh is known as a talented interpreter of Shakespeare (although kids recognize him best as buffoonish Gilderoy Lockhart in the Harry Potter films). Many thought the classically trained Branagh an odd choice to direct the superhero epic *Thor* (recently out on DVD), but he pulled it off with aplomb. Here are a few of Branagh's other directorial highlights:

### *Henry V.* PG-13. 1989

The then 28-year-old Branagh made a splash directing and starring in this energetic adaptation of The Bard's play about the English king who invaded France and won the Battle of Agincourt.



### *Dead Again.* R. 1991

Branagh channeled Hitchcock in this twisty supernatural mystery about an L.A. detective hired to help an amnesia victim tormented by nightmares, only to discover that they are both connected to a long-ago murder.

### *Hamlet.* PG-13. 1996

Something's rotten in the state of Denmark in this long, lavish Shakespearean production dotted with star cameos (Billy Crystal, Robin Williams, Judi Dench, Charlton Heston, Jack Lemmon).

### *A Midwinter's Tale.* R. 1995

An out-of-work actor (Branagh) decides to put on a Christmas play at a local church. The only problem is that the play is *Hamlet*. Filmed in black and white, this charming, eccentric comedy is a little-known gem sure to appeal to anyone who likes quirky British humor.



## World Film Fest



### *In a Better World* (R, Denmark, 2010)

Monday, Oct. 3 at 6:30 pm in the Petty Auditorium

### *Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles*

(PG, China, 2005)

Monday, Nov. 7 at 7:00 pm in the Petty Auditorium



## CAN'T-MISS MUSIC BY TOBY GREENWALT

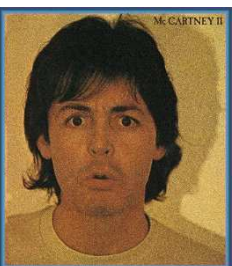
Fall is upon us, but what better way to relive summer than to sample albums from artists who performed in one of Chicago's outdoor music venues?



The band tUnE-yArDs (yes, that's how they write it) has been accumulating a steady amount of buzz all year, and their performance at July's Pitchfork Music Festival truly delivered on the hype. Their second album *Whokill* is a true showcase for songwriter Merrill Garbus' ability to merge sonic styles as

far-reaching as basement folk, Afro-pop, and straight-up rock and roll. The mix of complexity and whimsy makes for an album that truly rewards multiple listens.

Speaking of high expectations, the Hideout Block Party had to deliver a stellar lineup to make up for taking a break for the last two years. With a headliner like gospel legend Mavis Staples, it's clear that they held up their end of the bargain. Her latest album *You Are Not Alone* eschews the bombast of the full gospel choir, opting instead for a bluesy, minimalist sound that places the singer front and center.



The biggest show all summer may have been Paul McCartney's two-night-stand at Wrigley Field. Those of us left standing outside the Friendly Confines can comfort ourselves with the recent reissues of Sir Paul's eponymous solo records. The first album captures everything that made McCartney a legend, right down to the immortal "Maybe

I'm Amazed." But it's *McCartney II* that merits revisiting. Taking a more experimental tack, it shows McCartney taking a one-man-band kitchen-sink approach to recording, and creating a synth-centric sound that isn't out of place on current playlists. Listening to it now showcases just how adventurous his music can be.

Don't forget to check out the Studio blog at [blogs.skokieliibrary.info/studio](http://blogs.skokieliibrary.info/studio). When you're in the Library, stop by the Movies, Music and More department and ask our staff to help you find the perfect album.

## DVD Spotlight: Mad for Mr. Rochester!

With yet another version of Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* recently released on DVD, we thought it would be fun to profile the dashing actors who've played the brooding Mr. Rochester. All versions below are available at the Library. Who is your favorite Mr. Rochester?



**Michael Fassbender**  
(2011 theatrical version)  
Best-known for roles in *Inglourious Basterds* and *X-Men: First Class*, Fassbender is considered an up-and-coming Hollywood star.

**Toby Stephens**  
(2006 BBC version)

British TV vet Stephens is the son of acting legend Dame Maggie Smith and acclaimed thespian Sir Robert Stephens.



**Ciaran Hinds**  
(1997 A&E version)

The Belfast-born Hinds has played several classic heroes—he's also starred in adaptations of *Ivanhoe* and Jane Austen's *Persuasion*.



**William Hurt**  
(1996 theatrical version)

Rochester went blond (and American—albeit with an English accent) with Hurt's role.



**Timothy Dalton**  
(1983 BBC version)

Before he was Bond, Dalton was the tortured master of Thornfield Hall in this faithful British television production.



**Orson Welles**  
(1944 theatrical version)

For decades, Welles was the definitive Rochester, playing opposite Joan Fontaine's haunting Jane in this Hollywood classic.

