

BEST BUYS
IN BLANK TAPE

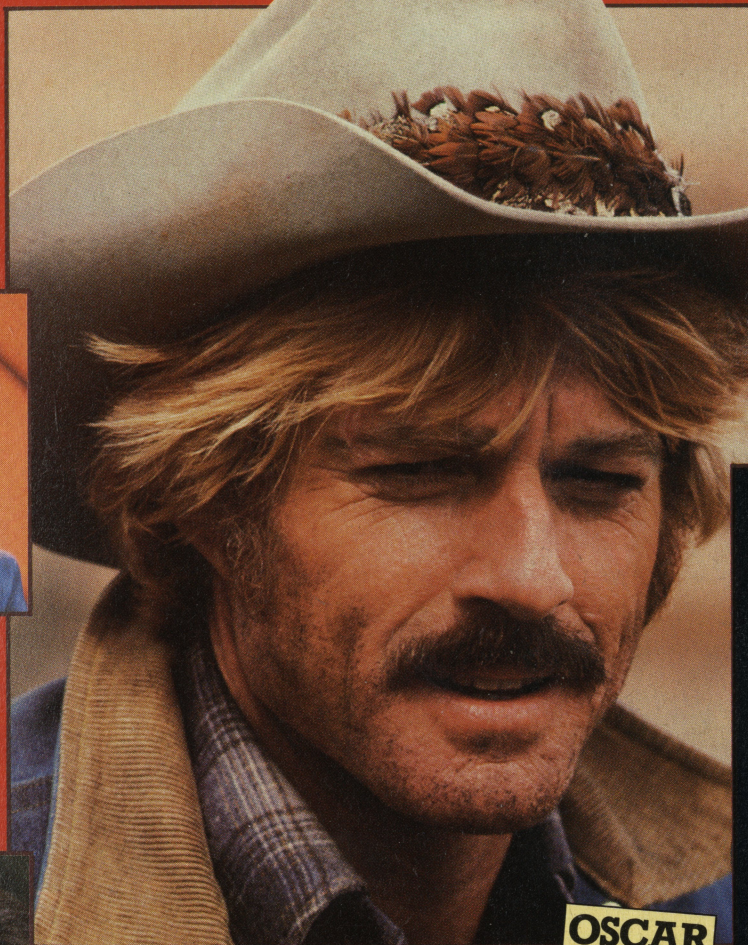
video

-the magazine

ROBERT REDFORD:
man who put
the butch in
Butch Cassidy.



JIM DAVIDSON:
"Too Risky"
for video?



**ELVIS –
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Far from the
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good news and
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Canon's new
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ALL THE MONTH'S VIDEO RELEASES**



ALL THAT JAZZ!

Let's take a look at some swinging sounds on video

Quietly, without fuss, there's a mini jazz revival in this country.

The last time jazz "happened" was the Trad Jazz boom of 20 years ago, when a few bands did very well and a lot of others did very badly. And for a long time afterwards, jazz as a music was driven back underground, condemned as a minority music.

Now, however, jazz thrives in pubs and clubs all around the country. The traditional jazz scene is well supported (albeit by an older age group than before) and there is a sprinkling of jazz available on video, too.

It's no more than that but, as a jazz lover of long standing (I even worked on the "Melody Maker" in the days when it covered jazz in some depth), I've been winking out a few examples of my favourites for like-minded fellow lovers.

VCL Video are certainly friends of the jazz world, with a superb video of the master of the keyboard Count Basie.

"COUNT BASIE LIVE" features 42 minutes of Bill Basie's inimitable swinging big band, an aggregate which has played all over the world on all kinds of occasions — and backed the cream of vocalists from

Frank Sinatra, to Lena Horne, Ella Fitzgerald and Tony Bennett, not forgetting our own Georgie Fame.

The video was recorded live at the Hollywood Palladium and, despite the fact that Basie is now into his seventies, there's no letting up in that magical momentum that sideman like Eddie "Lockjaw" Davis, Al Grey and Fran Jeffries can initiate. And of course, as ever, there's that spare, subtle, swinging piano style of the man himself.

"JAZZ FESTIVAL", also VCL, features a host of top jazz names — Basie again, the late Gene Krupa, ace big band drummer of the forties, singer Ella Fitzgerald, who had her first record hit back in 1936 with "A Tisket, A Tasket" and is still going strong, pianists Dave Brubeck and Teddy Wilson, star clarinettist and bandleader Benny Goodman, vibist/drummer/bandleader Lionel Hampton and star blues shouter Joe Williams.

The same label also features a tape of the band that, with the Acker Bilk Band and the Chris Barber Band, has consistently been Britain's most successful outfit — the Kenny Ball Band.

Kenny, a Louis Armstrong-inspired

trumpet player with a superb style and tone, formed his band back in the Fifties playing jazz club dates. Single hits like "Midnight In Moscow" followed and he broke into radio and TV, as well as cabaret. But he's always played an out and out Dixieland jazz style and his sidemen are among the top instrumentalists in Britain.

"KENNY BALL AND HIS JAZZMEN" is an excellent 30 minute live concert by aforementioned Frank Sinatra.

Francis Albert has appeared with some of the greatest jazzmen who've graced this century — Basie, Ellington, Tommy Dorsey, Louis Armstrong and many others. On "SINATRA 2 HOUR SPECIAL" (World of Video 2000) he sings some of his greatest songs from the forties, fifties and sixties.

Two other jazz-inspired singers are Pearl Bailey and Peggy Lee. Pearl's available on "THE PEARL BAILEY SHOW" (Vidpics) and there are two Peggy Lee tapes — "THE PEGGY LEE SHOW, 1 and 2" (Vidpics) which teams Peggy with various guests.

So jazz lovers, these are just a taste of the delights of your favourite kind of music available for your armchair swinging. A.W.



THE SPLATTER SHOW!

The quickness of the make-up man deceives the eye...

Going... going... gone! We don't strictly approve of lurid pics of splatter and gunge in this mag, but this is an exception. The ghouls and gore gourmets amongst you will enjoy this photo record of a quite remarkable demonstration held in London by special effects

man Tom Sullivan, whose ambition in life is to create ersatz mayhem for such Armchair Chamber of Horror epics as "The Evil Dead," Palace Video's recent excursion into blood 'n' guts. Tom prepared and executed an amazing display of the horrific art before an

audience in London's West End. He first prepared his model and proceeded to dismember him with chilling, stomach churning reality a few feet away from disbelieving onlookers, many of whom were seen nervously looking for the nearest sickbag! These

photos show Tom slicing off the hand of the victim (frankly, the others in the series were guaranteed to put you off your shish kebab). Nobody asked for an encore but we can confidently report that the victim was as right as rain afterwards.