ENTERTAIN YOUR BRAIN

Eight methods of pure distraction for your delectation!



DOCUMENTARY

MARLEY

What is it about?

Many have tried to define the legend of reggae superstar Bob Marley, and while it's probably true that many more T-shirts bearing his iconic imge have been sold than definitive movies made about his life, it would seem there's always room for more Marley mystery. This movie then, directed by Scottish film maker/director Kevin Macdonald (The Last King of Scotland, The Eagle) and co-produced by Bob's eldest son Ziggy, sets out to be the movie that tackles the man behind the myth in more depth than any book or movie has done before.

Why is it important?

Because while you might feel like you know Bob Marley (you know all the words to *One Love* and still have his *Legend* album on tape), there is so much about the global phenomenon that was never previously made public. As Ziggy says: "Over time, he has been summed up as just a ganja-smoking reggae singer, all love and peace, which is a part of it, but not the full story...There was another side."

Why should I watch it?

It's a beautifully-made slice of cinematography that places interviews with the people closest to Bob (his mom, widow, girlfriends-on-the-side, kids, his only surviving band mate Bunny Wailer and his "white" family on his dad's side, previously excluded from the legacy) at the forefront of telling us about the man as they knew him. In this way, the movie allows us to form a more complete portrait of the world's most famous Rastaman.

Stand out moments?

Widow Rita Marley revealing to us that she was often more of a bouncer to Bob than a wife, being tasked with having to remove the hordes of groupies that would occupy his dressing room and every backstage area wherever in the world he played.

Random fact

This was the movie Martin Scorsese originally wanted to make, and was working on until 2008, when he had to abandon it due to other commitments.

On circuit from 10 August.



ABRAHAM LINCOLN: VAMPIRE HUNTER

What is it?

A telling of the completely fictitious rumour that the sixteenth president of the United States was a vampire slayer in his earlier years.

Why should I go see it?

Director Timur Bekmambetov (Wanted) knows a thing about good sets and special effects (especially the one that sprays buckets of fake blood everywhere.)

Who's in it?

Benjamin Walker (*The War Boys*), Dominic Cooper (*The Devil's Double*), Anthony Mackie (*Real Steel*), and Mary Elizabeth Winstead (*The Thing*). On circuit from 10 August.

AI RIIM

TRENTON AND FREE RADICAL/ GIANT STEP

What is it?

Capetonian Trenton Birch and Ibizaraised collaborator Marco Wielander create an album of über-conscious lyrics and reggae-infused Afro beats.

Why is it important?

Lentil eaters and recyclers will love its earnest appeals to make the world a better place for future generations. A utopia where we all get along and behave with the thoughtful dignity of Nelson Mandela, even under extreme duress.

What's so amazing about it?

The single Tomorrow's Day (featuring the vocals of Maxi Jazz of Faithless fame) is

the high point. A fact not lost on the record company, who've included no less than five remix versions of the song for your listening pleasure. Simplistic rhymes and a complete lack of metaphor mean the rest of the tracks are aimed at the new-born future generation the band is so desperate to save.

Out now on Black Mango Music.