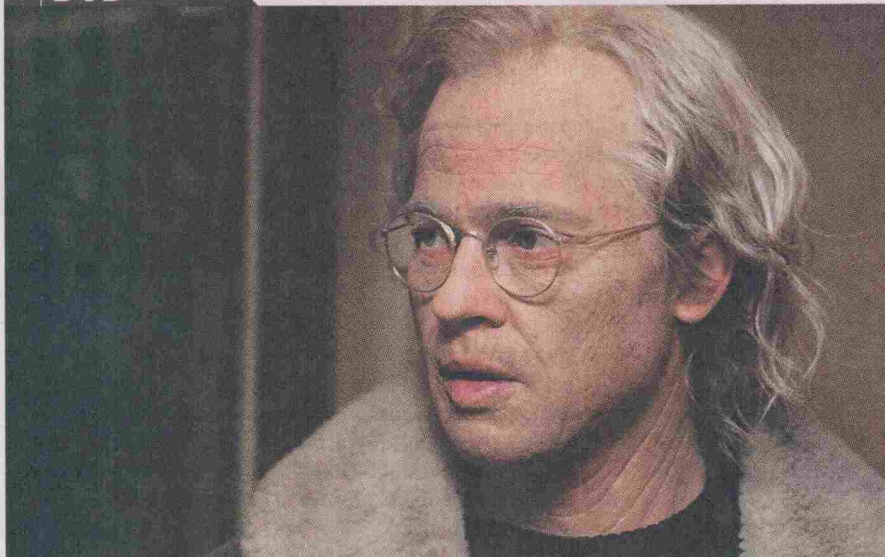


# sound & vision

This week's DVD/Music reviews  
BY GREG POTTER

DVD



## On The Button

### The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

STARS: Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, Taraji P. Henson

In an Oscar-nominated role, Pitt stars in director **David Fincher's** adaptation of **F. Scott Fitzgerald's** tale about a man who is born in his 80s and ages backwards. Set in New Orleans from the First World War until Hurricane Katrina, his remarkable story is recounted via the diary of his lifelong friend, Daisy (Blanchett). ★★★★★

### Designing Women: The Complete First Season

STARS: Dixie Carter, Delta Burke, Annie Potts, Jean Smart

Debuting in 1986, the seven-season sitcom featured strong-willed Southern belles operating an interior design company. Suzanne (Burke) is a serial bride, wealthy from alimony; sister Julia (Carter) has the business smarts; Mary Jo (Potts) is a divorced single mom; Charlene (Smart) is naïve but, like the others, dedicated to the cause. ★★★★★

### Crusoe: The Complete Series

STARS: Philip Winchester, Tongai Arnold Chirisa, Anna Walton, Sam Neill  
In this 13-episode drama loosely based on **Daniel Defoe's** 1719 novel, Crusoe (Winchester) is stranded on a desert isle. He befriends Friday (Chirisa), a native who asserts that he is not a slave. The pair encounters pirates looking for buried treasure, as well as members of Friday's former tribe, all of whom make life somewhat uncomfortable. ★★★★★



### Last Chance Harvey

STARS: Dustin Hoffman, Emma Thompson, Kathy Baker

Harvey (Hoffman) is a jazz pianist stuck in a jingle-writing job. Leaving New York for his daughter's wedding in London, he discovers she wants her stepfather to lead her down the aisle. Missing his plane home, he drinks heavily in the airport bar where he meets Kate (Thompson), and his life immediately takes a new turn in this grown-up romantic comedy. ★★★★★ ■

MUSIC



### Roland Nipp Little Victories

Third self-produced album from the Richmond-based axe-meister extraordinaire show-

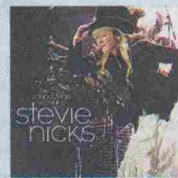
cases not only his nimble digits and mastery of tone, but well-above-par instrumental compositions that blend high-wire drama with dynamic intensity. Tastes of **Jeff Beck** circa *Blow by Blow* and **David Gilmour's** early solo work. **DOWNLOAD THIS:** "Shine!" (Independent) ★★★★★



### Peter, Björn and John Living Thing

The fifth album from the Swedish guitar/synth/sampling trio is sub-

limely melodic and chock full of interesting electronica that has more to do with **John Foxx-era Ultravox** and **David Bowie's** Berlin trilogy than the baroque indie-pop they've created in the past. The result is sparse yet hooky and engaging. **DOWNLOAD THIS:** "It Don't Move Me." (Sony) ★★★★★



### Stevie Nicks The Soundstage Sessions

This 10-song set (including **Dave Matthews'** "Crash Into Me" and

**Bonnie Raitt's** "Circle Dance") finds the 60-year-old Nicks in superb voice, performing personal faves from her **Fleetwood Mac** and solo albums (as opposed to hits like "Rhiannon" and "Dreams"). The band, led by **Waddy Wachtel**, is naturally top rank. **DOWNLOAD THIS:** "Landslide." (Reprise) ★★★★★