Careful with that axe

FOR any of you guitar buffs out there, a DVD that could be considered better than sex.

Dramatically staged, beautifully shot, it showcases the fluid, inspirational guitar-playing of Pink Floyd's David Gilmour.

All right, there are fascinating guest appearances from a smiling and youthful-looking David Bowie plus harmony kings David Crosby and Graham Nash, but it's Gilmour's fretwork that leaves the most lasting impression. Close-ups of his nimble fingers are frequent and compelling.

The main event is a concert in the hallowed surroundings of the Royal Albert Hall, the opening sequence drawing from The Dark Side Of The Moon (Speak To Me, Breathe, Remember That Night: Live At The Royal Albert Hall (Time) before a long section drawing from Gilmour’s excellent recent solo album On An Island.

Here, the new songs seem to grow in stature before our very eyes.

With Roger Waters touring The Dark Side Of The Moon, we'll have to live in hope for the mother of all reunions.

In the meantime, hearing keyboard player Richard Wright bringing authentic touches to Gilmour-led renditions of Shine On You Crazy Diamond, Echoes and Comfortably Numb, this DVD comes close to the real Pink Floyd deal.

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