**Ghost in the Shell**
**DVD FEATURE GHOST**

2029 - A female cybernetic government agent, Major Motoko Kusanagi, and the Internal Bureau of Investigations are hot on the trail of “The Puppet Master,” a mysterious and threatening computer virus capable of infiltrating human hosts. Together, with her fellow agents from Section 9, they embark on a high-tech race against time to capture the omnipresent entity.

- from the publisher

---

**The Electric Lady by Janelle Monae**

It seems faintly ridiculous typing this, given that it’s 2013 and not 1952, but the very fact that a mainstream R&B artist has released an album open to that interpretation feels an impressively bold move. Even in a post-Frank Ocean world, the charts aren’t exactly awash with stuff like this: it seems unlikely that anyone’s going to react to *The Electric Lady* with a roll of the eyes and a stifled yawn of, “Oh, dear God, not another one of those apparently lesbian-themed sci-fi R&B concept albums.”

- from *The Guardian*

---

**Her**
**DVD FEATURE HER**

Joaquin Phoenix, [...] plays Theodore Twombly, who writes letters online for people who can’t express their feelings. [...] His wife (Rooney Mara) has left him. His best friend (an excellent Amy Adams) is distracted by her work as a video-game maker. No wonder Theodore feels he’s found the perfect woman in Samantha. The catch is she’s his computer’s operating system and knows him better than anyone; she’s programmed that way.

- Peter Travers at *Rolling Stone*

---

**Computer Chess**
**DVD FEATURE COMP**

Strange revelations arise during a competition for programmers of chess-playing computers in this oddly compelling and understated black-and-white film.

- from the publisher

---

**Cyberpunk**
**AND CYBERPUNK-RELATED SCIENCE FICTION**

---

**Neuromancer by William Gibson**

Arguably the cyberpunk urtext, *Neuromancer* gives us digital theft, hedonistic holography, dirty neon, space Rastas, bionic ninjas, and more anachronistic file sizes than you can shake a katana at.

- Patrick at Southwest

---

**Hey Music Lovers!**

In honor of the 2018 Summer Reading theme of “Libraries Rock”, check out our Spotify playlists at durhamcountylibrary.org/rockout to hear “Cyberpunk Sounds’ and more!
"The future is already here — it’s just not very evenly distributed." — William Gibson

Paprika by Yasutaka Tsutsui
At Tokyo’s Institute for Psychiatric Research, beautiful, 29-year-old psychiatrist Atsuko Chiba is effecting rapid cures of schizophrenia. Using devices developed by colleague Kosaku Tokita, a grotesquely obese and child-like genius, Atsuko enters patients’ dreams and participates in them, and she and Tokita have been short-listed for the Nobel Prize. But for reasons of professional jealousy, hubris, and twisted sexual desire, a doctor and a top administrator at the institute steal the devices and begin to “infect” staff members with schizophrenia. Only Atsuko can oppose them, and she must do that in both the real world and the nightmarish dreams of the victims.

- Thomas Gaughan at Booklist

Futureland by Walter Moseley
Instead of [cyberpunk’s] cliché of cool, cutting-edge, street-smart, but not very believable outlaws who out-hack and outwit powerful multinational corporations, this Dante-esque collection presents outlaws and outcasts who may be street-wise, but who have little chance of overcoming the corporations and governments that control, and sometimes take, their lives. Like shockingly few other SF works, Futureland directly examines the lives of the working and the nonworking classes, the poor and the marginalized, the criminal and the criminalized.

- Cynthia Ward at Amazon.com

The Three Stigmata of Palmer Eldritch by Philip K. Dick
One of Dick’s many proto-cyberpunk works, The Three Stigmata describes the misery of life on Mars and its inhabitants’ primary means of escape: drug-induced conscious-projection into the world of the Barbie-like Perky Pat. When the virtual is preferable to the real, what is reality anyway?

- Patrick at Southwest

All Systems Red by Martha Wells
On a distant planet, a team of scientists are conducting surface tests, shadowed by their Company-supplied droid: a self-aware SecUnit that has hacked its own governor module, and refers to itself (though never out loud) as “Murderbot.” Scornful of humans, all it really wants is to be left alone long enough to figure out who it is. But when a neighboring mission goes dark, it’s up to the scientists and their Murderbot to get to the truth.

- from the publisher

The Diamond Age by Neal Stephenson
Although less famous (and more deserving of praise) than Snow Crash, Stephenson’s other cyberpunk opus, The Diamond Age tells the story of a virtual tutor — the “young lady’s illustrated primer” of the subtitle — and the social fallout that occurs when it lands in the hands of an urchin girl rather than the upper-class child it was meant for.

- Patrick at Southwest

The Private Eye by Vaughan, Martin and Vicente Graphic Novel F VAUGHAN, B.
The Internet is outlawed, and information privacy is the nation’s top priority, but a nosy P.I. can’t shake his curiosity when a client’s murder puts him on the trail of a high-tech conspiracy. California noir meets techno-thriller with neat, fluid linework and stunning colors.

- Patrick at Southwest

Tokyo Ghost by Remender and Murphy Graphic Novel F TOKY
[In 2009] Constable Led Dent, or Teddy, is more machine than man, unable to exist outside of the [..] Dent’s counterpart [Debbie] Decay is completely net-free, favoring a hands-on approach to life taught to her by her gumshoe father. Two different approaches to the world of 2089, where “Death Race” is a convenient method of suicide and self respect is sold by the gram.

- Chris Davis at cbr.com

Akira by Katsuhiro Otomo
Graphic Novel F OTOMO, K.
The classic manga Akira is a dystopian saga set in Neo-Tokyo, a city recovering from thermonuclear attack where the streets have been ceded to motorcycle gangs and the rich and powerful run dangerous experiments on destructive, supernatural powers that they cannot control.