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ay video star and most people think of Max Headroom. Give it a few months and Peter Boyd of the **Duvet Brothers** could be the newest cult hero of the cellu-

loid boom. Fresh from staging a multi screen video show in 'the seedy end of Berlin, right next to the Wall', Peter is an art student without ideals, a realist who brings a sharp edge to the fantasy world he sees through the camera eye.

Baggy suit, pale face (too many hours in the cutting room), Peter can often be found sitting in a darkened room surrounded by flickering screens where he is working out a revolutionary method of making, and using videos. "The medium has been vastly under-exploited until now," he explains with a touch of manic enthusiasm. "The potential is enormous. What I am trying to do is crank up conventional techniques so people really sit up and look."

Fellow innovator and partner in the Duvet Brothers (video makers who are guaranteed not to send you to sleep) Rick Lander acts as technical advisor while Peter uses his training as a painter to bring a new perspective to colour and texture on film. Already the Duvet duo have made an appearance on Channel

Four, secured a contract making fillers for the European Cable TV Pop show, Music Box, and have been commissioned by an agency to bring their unorthodox methods to the unsuspecting world of advertising.

'Scratching', or repeated edits of one piece of film to create a quickfire duplicated image is one method which Rick and Peter have manipulated. "The beauty of it," explains Peter, "is that accidents can often be converted into inspirations," which they add to their characteristic rag-bag of film extracts borrowed from broadcast material, propaganda, original black and white footage, combined with film shot on location. The freshness comes, as Peter notes, with his theory that you can paint with video.

Past work includes a two-minute fine art promotion for painter Emrys Williams' beautifully coloured paintings of tropical animals (cult band 23 Skidoo provide the tribal beat), where technology meets art in a jewel-toned mix. More recently there have been pop videos for jazzy soul-tinged trio, The Colourbox, whose commercial melodies can be heard filtering through the Radio One airwaves with increasing regularity. Entering



The Duvet duo

the world of pop is no sell-out on their anarchistic view of life—bands using the Duvet Brothers to promote their cause are likely to come out with their imperfections magnified warts and all.

The Duvet Brothers have no intention of confining themselves to the studio. They like nothing better than to get on the road staging 'live' multi screen shows with as many televisions as they can muster to enforce the power of their images. The result is a video epic—violent, colourful and explosive, presenting a twisted view of the world which is, nevertheless, firmly rooted in reality. "I want people to realise that there is more to video than going to a shop and hiring some crappy film," Peter sums up. **Fiona Cumberpatch**