

Hits of the Decade: a Gateway Series (V)

This week's contributor is president of the Edmonton Local Mick Jagger Fan(atic) Club, Arts staffer Michaleen Marte.

1. Rolling Stones *Exile on Main Street* 1972

The most murky, muffled, mad and magnificent album the Stones have ever created. Unfortunately such an important work has been sadly neglected by nearly all contemporary music critics, even by durable Stones fans. It is undeniably a potent statement on the group's impact on the sounds of the Seventies.

2. David Bowie *Hunky Dory* 1970

This is certainly the precious gem from which Bowie's brilliance flourished. The album never wears with age, and among his other recordings this one should stand the test of time. Bowie took radical routes in music and theatrics which were inevitably used and abused by many.

3. Lou Reed *Transformer* 1972

Transformer is the Satellite of Love before Lou Reed entered his permanent heart of darkness. Nostalgia, paranoia, sentimentality and nihilism — Lou combined them all, in a strange and exquisite way. Lou is the symbol of every form of deviance that our age has encompassed. But he was actually a simple, married man, who always dreamed of playing football

for the coach.

4. Joe Cocker *Mad Dogs and Englishmen* 1970

It seems hard to remember back this far. This album stands as one of the last products of the blissful days of the collective musical spirit of the Sixties. Here Joe Cocker earned his name as the white soul, in the center of such greats as Eric Clapton, Leon Russell, Rita Coolidge and Bobby Keys.

5. Pink Floyd *Dark Side of the Moon* 1973

How can one forget these gentlemen of early progressive rock? The accomplishments of this group introduced countless other groups to the potential of electronic music. Pink Floyd were brave as well as innovative in their whole approach and were able to attain popular acceptance with this album.

6. Bob Dylan *Desire* 1975

One cannot forget Dylan as a surviving force in modern music. I am not listing this album as the peak of his recordings in the seventies. It is a standout because of its refreshing and lustrous quality. It reaffirms faith in the songwriter and the singer that is the immortal Dylan.

7. Roxy Music *Country Life* 1975

The height of pompous decadence. This band boasted the unique talents of individuals such as Phil Manzanera, Brian Eno and of course the inimitable Brian Ferry. Throughout the band's history each one broke away on some musical excursion of his own. But

Roxy Music at this point was scintillating, sophisticated and simply, superb.

8. Joni Mitchell *Miles of Aisles* 1975

Here's one on the list for Canadian content. Perhaps some of us forget that she is a native-born Canadian because her talent stands quite alone and unchallenged. *Miles of Aisles* is a live recording that captures some of the very best of the mystical lady of song.

9. Bob Marley and the Wailers *Rastaman Vibration* 1976

One cannot deny the influence of reggae on popular music in North America and Western Europe. It was once considered a foreign, ritualistic rhythm, but has gradually found its way into the mainstream of music in the 1970s. Bob Marley and his group are the most identifiable as proponents of the popular trend.

10. Donna Summer *Live and More* 1978

Sorry Rick, but honestly, what better describes the most significant musical "movement" in the late Seventies, than, yes, disco? Anyway you look at it, disco can be loathed, loved or simply tolerated in the understanding of its purpose. Escapism, titillation, glamour and mindlessness are its key notes. Donna Summer is the best representative with her great talent and ambition to make disco a viable alternative to other forms of music. She is without question the most elegant and refined performer in the mode today.

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JOSEPH WISEMAN

JOSEPH WISEMAN has distinguished himself on stage in theatres throughout America and London in roles ranging from Shakespeare, Chekhov, Pirandello, to Saul Bellow. A member of the original Lincoln Centre Repertory Company, he is perhaps best remembered for his appearances in Harold Clurman's production of *Incident at Vichy* by Arthur Miller. Later, in guest appearances with the Lincoln Center Company, he was seen in *In the Matter of J. Robert Oppenheimer* and Gorki's *Enemies*. His most recent New York appearance was as the Rabbi in Elie Wiesel's *Zalmen, or the Madness of God*.

His many films have included *With the Hands*, *Detective Story*, *Viva Zapata*, *The Unforgiven*, *Dr. No*, *Bye Bye Braverman*, *The Valachi Papers* and *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*.

With the late Morton Wishengrad, he was active for many years in both the radio and television program, "The Eternal Light."

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