

BURN THIS!

YES

Major, major fan of the band. Saw their first show in America EVER at the Wildwood Convention Hall in June of '71 opening up for Jethro Tull who were touring behind AQUALUNG even though the album wasn't out yet. (Which Ian Anderson mentioned and he wasn't too happy about it). Years later, I opened for Steve Howe and talked to him about this very show. Although the rest of the band is spectacular, the bass/drum combo of Squire/Bruford might be the best ever. I'm not sure, but I think ten songs might be the fewest amount of songs on a BURN THIS! yet. (No particular order)

1. HEART OF THE SUNRISE... Hands down, their most majestic moment.
2. STARSHIP TROOPER... Was in a shitty band once, auditioning bass players, and this cat played this for an audition piece and blew us away. Then he heard me drum and cut out quicker than a south Philly second.
3. ROUNDABOUT...
4. MOOD FOR A DAY... God, I have played this a million times
5. AMERICA... One of my fav covers ever.
6. SIBERIAN KHARTU... Whatever this title means
7. LONG DISTANCE RUNAROUND
8. AND YOU AND I
9. YOUR IS NO DISGRACE
10. OWNER OF A LONELY HEART... The only song on this list not to have Bruford on drums.

If you have to take off a song cause it ran too long, take off LONG DISTANCE. I know I left off a few choice cuts (EVERY LITTLE THING, NO OPPORTUNITY NECESSARY, TIME AND A WORD), but them's the breaks.

BURN THIS!

THE KING (AND I DON'T MEAN ESKIN)

07/25/2007

What's weird here is that Elvis's Sun sessions are not only historic, it also made for great enduring music. But only a handful of Sun tunes made the list. The easy part for this BURN THIS! was that almost every tune here is less than three minutes (and some under two!), so THIRTY gems made the cut. (Yet I still had to leave many off)

NO PARTICULAR ORDER

1. IF I CAN DREAM (My fav E tune ever, so great, I even enjoyed the Celine Dion duet)
2. ONE NIGHT As down and dirty as E ever got.
3. LOVE ME Ever hear Nicholas Cage's version?
4. THE WONDER OF YOU Ever hear MY drunken karaoke version?
5. TRYING TO GET TO YOU
6. I WANT YOU, I NEED YOU, I LOVE YOU
7. SUSPICIOUS MINDS My wife's fav E tune.
8. LITTLE SISTER
9. DON'T
10. HEARTBREAK HOTEL Still sounds sinister!
11. ALL SHOOK UP
12. BLUE SUEDE SHOES
13. DON'T BE CRUEL
14. JAILHOUSE ROCK What an intro!
15. BURNING LOVE
16. ARE YOU LONESOME TONIGHT?
17. LOVE ME TENDER
18. PEACE IN THE VALLEY Not a gospel music fan, but this one and the next two are as good as it gets.
19. I BELIEVE
20. IT'S NO SECRET
21. VIVA LAS VEGAS
22. CAN'T HELP FALLING IN LOVE
23. IT'S NOW OR NEVER
24. MARIE'S THE NAME
25. RETURN TO SENDER Hokey, but irresistible.
26. SURRENDER
27. SO GLAD YOU'RE MINE
28. ONE SIDED LOVE AFFAIR
29. GOOD ROCKIN' TONIGHT

If one has to come off, it'll be BLUE SUEDE SHOES.

BURN THIS!

BEACH BOYS

05/09/2005

"The Sixer season is over. There never was any hockey. The Phils are in their annual nosedive. What else to do? Start a new segment called BURN THIS! I'm going to burn a CD for you every Thursday morning on WIP. I'm going to go through my CD collection in alphabetical order. Every time I come across an artist that I have at least five CD's by. I'm going to make a "Best of" from those CD's. I'm allowing eighty minutes a blank CD. OK, then there's the rules. First up are the boys from Hawthorne. This is strictly for the group. No solo Brian Wilson tunes. (Damn, hate to leave off LOVE AND MERCY) This is not in any kind of "I like this song the best" order. Just looking for some flow."

1. DO IT AGAIN
2. THAT'S NOT ME
3. WE'LL RUN AWAY
4. I GET AROUND
5. GOD ONLY KNOWS
6. KEEP AN EYE ON SUMMER
7. GOOD VIBRATIONS
8. LET HIM RUN WILD
9. BE TRUE TO YOUR SCHOOL
10. I CAN HEAR MUSIC
11. DON'T TALK (PUT YOUR HEAD ON MY SHOULDER)
12. DARLING
13. SAIL ON SAILOR
14. SUMMER MEANS NEW LOVE
15. THE LITTLE GIRL I ONCE KNEW
16. GIRLS ON THE BEACH
17. CAROLINE NO
18. ALL SUMMER LONG
19. SURF'S UP
20. YOUR SUMMER DREAM
21. YOU'RE SO GOOD TO ME
22. DISNEY GIRLS (1957)
23. IN MY ROOM
24. WOULDN'T IT BE NICE
25. LONG PROMISED ROAD
26. WHEN I GROW UP TO BE A MAN
27. PLEASE LET ME WONDER
28. WARMTH OF THE SUN
29. CALIFORNIA GIRLS
30. OUR PRAYER

BURN THIS!

BEATLES

05/18/2005

Talk about the impossible. One blank 80 minute CD. The greatest band of our time. Let me get you all straight on something. At no point did I try to get cute or "critically correct" with this CD. These are FOR REAL my favorite Beatle songs on 5/17/05. Maybe they weren't ten years ago and maybe they won't be a decade from now, but they are now. At no point did I attempt to make sure that all era's or styles were properly represented. It is what it is. Hell, I left off SHE'S LEAVING HOME which is my Mom's favorite song (I love it also), so you know how serious I got with this. My thanks to Spins Nitely who fed me Johnnie Walker Black to make sure that all these songs sounded great drunk, because, shit, any song can sound good sober. Ironically, the two songs that were mentioned to me the most did not make it. HEY JUDE is a classic that always grabs me right away, but at over seven minutes, there's just too many "nah-nah-nah-nah's." And what's up with YELLOW SUBMARINE? It's a really fun number, but c'mon, it's a kid song. Another tune that listeners and readers checked in with a lot was YOU KNOW MY NAME (LOOK UP THE NUMBER). Now I love that song and my man Goob and I use to drive the patrons of Trio's Restaurant out of their minds by playing it over and over on the jukebox, but it's a novelty song for chrissakes. For the record, this CD times out to 79:28.

1. FLYING
2. YOU CAN'T DO THAT
3. I WILL
4. STRAWBERRY FIELDS FOREVER
5. I SAW HER STANDING THERE
6. IN MY LIFE
7. WHILE MY GUITAR GENTLY WEEPS
8. TWIST AND SHOUT
9. HERE THERE AND EVERYWHERE
10. I'M SO TIRED
11. LADY MADONNA
12. THIS BOY
13. A DAY IN THE LIFE
14. HELP
15. YESTERDAY
16. TOMORROW NEVER KNOWS
17. GOOD DAY SUNSHINE
18. IF I FELL
19. FOR NO ONE
20. NOWHERE MAN
21. ELEANOR RIGBY
22. BAD BOY
23. OH DARLING
24. HAPPINESS IS A WARM GUN
25. PAPERBACK WRITER
26. HEY BULLDOG
27. GETTING BETTER
28. GOLDEN SLUMBERS, CARRY THAT WEIGHT, THE END, HER MAJESTY

BURN THIS!

BONZO DOG BAND

05/29/2005

1. COOL BRITANNIA
2. THE EQUESTRIAN STATUE
3. JOLLITY FARM (or as Rob Charry calls it, JOLOVITZ FARM)
4. LOOK OUT, THERE'S A MONSTER COMING
5. WE ARE NORMAL
6. NARCISSUS
7. THE INTO AND THE OUTRO
8. MICKEY'S SON AND DAUGHTER
9. MUSIC FOR THE HEAD BALLET
10. PIGGY BANK LOVE
11. I'M BORED
12. THE SOUND OF MUSIC
13. JAZZ, DELICIOUS HOT, DISGUSTING COLD
14. HELLO MABEL
15. KAMA SUTRA
16. TROUSER PRESS
17. RHINOCRATHIC OATHS
18. HUNTING TIGERS OUT IN "INDIAH"
19. TUBAS IN THE MOONLIGHT
20. DR. JAZZ
21. ALI BABA'S CAMEL
22. LAUGHING BLUES
23. KEYNSHAM
24. TENT
25. WE WERE WRONG
26. JOKE SHOP MAN
27. LOOK AT ME I'M WONDERFUL
28. WHAT DO YOU DO?
29. MR. SLATER'S PARROT
30. NOISES FOR THE LEG
31. I'M GOING TO BRING A WATERMELON TO MY GIRL TONIGHT
32. SLUSH

BURN THIS!

DAVID BOWIE THE THIN WHITE DUKE! 05/28/2005

Amazing how hard this disc was to burn considering I haven't bought a Bowie CD since LET'S DANCE. Having put on most of HUNKY DORY meant I had to leave off gems such as STAY, JOHN, I'M ONLY DANCING (The longer dance version), BLUE JEAN, JOE THE LION, CRACKED ACTOR, CAT PEOPLE (The superior soundtrack version is too long at 6:43), MOONAGE DAYDREAM, and a lot of LIVE AT THE TOWER (Which, by the way, I was AT those shows). The whole thing clocked in at 79:38 and at 21 songs is the least amount of tunes so far since BURN THIS! began.

1. SUFFRAGETTE CITY
2. LIFE ON MARS
3. CAN YOU HEAR ME?
4. HANG ON TO YOURSELF
5. HEROES
6. KOOKS
7. WHAT IN THE WORLD
8. STAR
9. REBEL REBEL (LIVE, TOWER)
10. CHANGES
11. SCARY MONSTERS
12. FIVE YEARS
13. YOUNG AMERICANS
14. OH YOU PRETTY THINGS
15. MODERN WORLD
16. ROCK AND ROLL SUICIDE
17. QUEEN BITCH
18. SPACE ODDITY
19. FILL YOUR HEART/ANDY WARHOL
20. SUFFRAGETTE CITY (LIVE, TOWER)

BURN THIS!

JAMES BROWN

06/08/2005

The very first concert I ever saw. JB. In the round. The Spectrum. Nipsy Russell and the Ojays were the opening acts. SAY IT LOUD I'M BLACK AND I'M PROUD was the first song. Needless to say, this performance and, a little later on, THE WHO, at the original Factory changed my life FOREVER! Decided to leave off SANTA CLAUS, GO STRAIGHT TO THE GHETTO. In December I'll write a holiday BURN THIS! and you can bet your bippy that song will be on it. Tough leaving off LICKING STICK-LICKING STICK, TRY ME, THINK, BRING IT UP. Some of these tunes on this disc you may not be familiar with. They are instrumentals and never got any airplay. They are all available on a collection called SOUL PRIDE, THE INSTRUMENTALS, 1960-1969. This is an absolute essential buy and I even left quite a bit off this collection because, I ONLY HAVE 80 MINUTES! We're only talking about one of the most imitated and most sampled artist ever. Christ, he INVENTED funk! Tied with Bowie for the least amount of songs making up 80 minutes.

1. I GOT THE FEELING Only in the top 25 songs EVER RECORDED and Clyde Stubblefield's drumming on this tune will show up again on a BURN THIS! drum performances)
2. I DON'T WANT NOBODY TO GIVE ME NOTHING (OPEN UP THE DOOR I'LL GET IT MYSELF)
3. LIVING IN AMERICA
4. AIN'T IT FUNKY NOW (Whenever I have to clean up after a party, it's always to this tune)
5. I GOT YOU
6. THERE WAS A TIME (LIVE)
7. PRISONER OF LOVE
8. NEW BREED
9. PAPA'S GOT A BRAND NEW BAG (The first time I heard this was on a little transistor radio blasting out of Tony's Water Ice truck and it just blew me a way!)
10. MOTHER POPCORN
11. THE OLD LANDMARK (WITH THE REV. JAMES CLEVELAND CHOIR) from the BLUES BROTHERS SOUNDTRACK
12. TELL ME WHAT I'VE DONE WRONG.
13. EVERY BEAT OF MY HEART
14. PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE
15. IT'S A MAN'S MAN'S MAN'S WORLD
16. SEX MACHINE
17. I'LL GO CRAZY
18. COLD SWEAT
19. THE KING
20. DON'T BE A DROPOUT
21. OUT OF SIGHT

BURN THIS!

RAY CHARLES

06/16/2005

THE GENIUS OF SOUL!

Whenever I am asked who is the "biggest name" I ever worked for, I always answer Ray Charles. BB, Smokey, Gladys, are huge, I'll give you, but Ray Charles? It was the gig that finally made my mother realize that Little Eddie maybe had a career going. I was booked to open for him for two shows in Wilmington and he was late for the first, so I was told to stretch while I was on stage. Imagine killing time for Ray Charles. In between shows I went searching for Mr. Charles and after actually walking in on some Raelettes changing, I found Ray sitting all by himself in an empty room. He asked me what I thought of the first crowd. He thought they were flat because they were pissed he was late. We chatted for a little while and I actually cut the conversation short because his Southern accent was so thick I couldn't understand everything he was saying. That's the truth. But he was extremely polite and gracious. As always, very difficult cutting this down to 80 minutes. How do you leave YES INDEED, ELEANOR RIGBY, CRY, SWANEE RIVER ROCK, YOU ARE MY SUNSHINE, TELL THE TRUTH off any CD of Ray Charles classics? Ah, that's the fun of BURN THIS!

1. HIT THE ROAD JACK (The first "real" song my daughter Keely ever asked me to play)
2. LONELY AVENUE (Van does a cool version)
3. DROWN IN MY OWN TEARS
4. I GOT A WOMAN (Love Elvis's version also)
5. BUSTED
6. I CAN'T STOP LOVING YOU (Ever hear Van & the Chieftains version?)
7. THE RIGHT TIME
8. SHAKE A TAIL FEATHER (BLUES BROTHERS SOUNDTRACK)
9. COME BACK BABY
10. LET'S GO GET STONED
11. GEORGIA (My Mom's favorite)
12. MESS AROUND
13. YOU DON'T KNOW ME
14. IT SHOULD HAVE BEEN ME
15. NO ONE
16. WHAT KIND OF MAN ARE YOU?
17. BUSTED
18. CRYING TIME
19. I WANT TO KNOW
20. UNCHAIN MY HEART
21. HARD TIMES
22. TELL ME HOW DO YOU FEEL
23. LEAVE MY WOMAN ALONE
24. WHAT 'D I SAY, PARTS 1&2
25. AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL (The night Ray died I played this all night long and I have to admit, I shed a tear or two)

BURN THIS!

CHICAGO TRANSIT AUTHORITY

06/26/2005

Yeah, I know they dropped the "Transit Authority" after their first double album, but it's how I'll always think of them. Saw them a MANY times live at the original Electric Factory and at the Quaker City Rock Festival (Anyone remember that?). There will be some critics that say Chicago has no right being a part of BURN THIS! being I'm sourcing this materiel from only three albums. But, as you know, they were all true doubles, and the fact is I once owned that Chicago IV live box suitcase until someone stole it to use as a doorstop. So I once technically owed 10 Chicago albums, though most of the material here comes from those first two doubles. And magnificent doubles they were. Great songs (although the hippie crap was awful), unique brass charts, three great lead singers in Terry Kath, Robert Lamm & Peter Cetera, beautiful background harmonies, gutsy guitar playing from Kath and incredible drumming from Danny Seraphine. One of the most unique and exciting and self-contained true "groups" off all time. How they are not in the Rock&Roll Hall of Fame is a joke. When you consider you have people like Del Shannon and Percy Sledge in there, for what? One or two hits? PUT CHICAGO IN!

1. INTRODUCTION
2. MAKE ME SMILE
3. SO MUCH TO SAY, SO MUCH TO GIVE
4. ANXIETY'S MOMENT
5. WEST VIRGINIA FANTASIES
6. COLOUR MY WORLD
7. TO BE FREE
8. NOW MORE THAN EVER
9. DOES ANYBODY REALLY KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS?
10. MOVIN' IN
11. I'M A MAN
12. FREE
13. LISTEN
14. 25 OR 6 TO 4
15. QUESTIONS 67 & 68
16. WAKE UP SUNSHINE
17. SOUTH CALIFORNIA PURPLES
18. AN HOUR IN THE SHOWER
19. BEGINNINGS
20. SOMEDAY (AUGUST 29, 1968)

BURN THIS!

ERIC CLAPTON

07/08/2005

CLAPTON IS GOD!

There certainly was a time when I thought so. For those of you old enough to remember when Clapton broke on to the scene, he was truly mind-blowing. He was just a tad ahead of Hendrix and at the time, NO ONE was getting sounds of a guitar like Clapton was. To this day, there's stuff on those Cream records that still sound revolutionary. But then he entered a long, long phase where he became so bland that I just ignored him. The only record he made in ther last ten years that moved me at all was FROM THE CRADLE, and even that I kind of halfassed listened to. (Although when I went back to it for the sake of "BURN THIS!," I rediscovered it for the terrific record that it is) Now I know everyone is going to bitch at me for not having LAYLA on here, but I swear on my Dad's grave, I just never took to that song. I love the piano ending, but the rest of it... One last thing. PLEASE seek out a DVD called A CONCERT FOR GEORGE. It's a tribute concert to George Harrison that's very moving. Clapton organizes the band and pretty much conducts the band, and I think you'll just love it.

1. CROSSROADS (I can't get over how exciting this tune still is)
2. I FEEL FREE
3. AFTER MIDNIGHT
4. BADGE
5. WE'RE GOING WRONG
6. DRIFTIN'
7. N.S.U. (What the hell do these initials mean?)
8. SITTING ON TOP OF THE WORLD
9. FURTHER ON UP THE ROAD (From THE LAST WALTZ)
10. SUNSHINE OF YOUR LOVE
11. WHITE ROOM
12. LET IT RAIN
13. SWABLR
14. WONDERFUL TONIGHT (A tad syrupy, but the lyric is so simple)
15. GROANING THE BLUES
16. SLEEPY TIME TIME (From LIVE CREAM, and his absolute crowning achievement)
17. I AIN'T GOT YOU (The Yardbirds)
18. SAN FRANCISCO BLUES (A song that my brothers and sisters and I used to sing)
19. TALES OF BRAVE ULYSSES
20. WHILE MY GUITAR GENTLY WEEPS (THE BEATLES, like you didn't know that)

BURN THIS!

THE CLASH

07/09/2005

I wish I could tell you why this is, because I was most certainly around and plugged in, but I came aboard the Clash late. I was a major Sex Pistols fan and I thought the Clash were second rate compared to Sid and the boys. Boy, was I wrong, and now I really regret not being on board with them right away. I would have seen them live more than the one time that I did. It took me a while to get Joe Strummer's voice and to this day he might be the best/worst lead singer of a band ever. He really can't sing but he attacks each song with such balls and truth. The other thing I love about the Clash is that more than any other band I've done "Burn This!" with, I'm still discovering more and more great tunes all the time. When devouring the band for the last couple weeks in preparation for this list, CHEAT just kept jumping out at me more and more with each listen. They're a magnificent, important band and Joe Strummer's death still affects me whenever I listen to anything by them. He truly lived and loved it.

1. JANIE JONES (Maybe the best first track of a first album ever?)
2. CLAMPDOWN
3. SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO
3. I FOUGHT THE LAW (When I recorded my parody, I FOUGHT MY WIFE, I based it on the Clash's version and not Bobby Fuller's.)
4. LONDON'S CALLING
5. OVERPOWERED BY FUNK
6. I'M SO BORED WITH THE USA
7. HATEFUL
8. ROCK THE CASBAH (Seek out the many extended mixes)
9. TOMMY GUN
10. LOST IN THE SUPERMARKET
11. HITSVILLE UK
12. BRAND NEW CADILLAC (What a guitar solo)
13. SAFE EUROPEAN HOME
14. SPANISH BOMBS
15. LONDON'S BURNING
16. WRONG 'EM BOYO
17. POLICE ON MY BACK
18. TRAIN IN VAIN (Although every live version I've ever heard kicks it)
19. CHEAT
20. THE RIGHT PROFILE
21. REMOTE CONTROL
22. DEATH OR GLORY
23. CAREER OPPORTUNITIES (SANDINISTA version)

BURN THIS!

DECLAN MACMANUS ~ ELVIS COSTELLO

07/24/2005

More than any other artist so far, more emailers sent me in their own 80 minute Elvis CD. So I guess mine isn't gonna satisfy everybody. Which is the point of "BURN THIS!" With apologies to Neil Young, Bowie, and many other artists, NO ONE experiments more than E. String quartets, opera, jazz, Bacharach, country. Unfortunately, in the end, it's rock/pop Elvis that I end up playing the most. so here's a quick list of songs that didn't make it, GOD GIVE ME STRENGTH (Way too long at 6:11), JUST A MEMORY, SCARLET TIDE, 45, BROKEN BICYCLES. LOVE FOR SALE, I WANT YOU, I CAN'T STAND UP FOR FALLING DOWN, JUNK, MAN OUT OF TIME, GETTING MIGHTY, CROWDED, ALISON & WATCHING THE DETECTIVES. I know the last two omissions are gonna piss some off, but the truth is, while admitting that both are awesome songs, I've tired of them a bit and I would play all these E tunes on this list before I would play either of them. TOUGH TITTIE!

1. RADIO RADIO (only Dewey St.'s version has ever come close)
2. FROM A WHISPER TO A SCREAM
3. ALIBI (Every E tune has clever lyrics, but this one . . .)
4. WELCOME TO THE WORKING WEEK
5. ACCIDENTS WILL HAPPEN
6. LITTLE TRIGGERS
7. 5 GEARS IN REVERSE
8. SHABBY DOLL
9. WATCH YOUR STEP
10. PUMP IT UP (STILL not tired of it!)
11. MOODS FOR MODERNS
12. THE LONG HONEYMOON (One of the best usage's of an accordion ever)
13. NO ACTION
14. PAY IT BACK
15. MONKEY TO MAN (I know it hasn't stood the test of time, but I so love this song)
16. THIS YEAR'S GIRL (Bruce Thomas is so underrated)
17. BEATEN TO THE PUNCH
18. LESS THAN ZERO
19. GREEN SHIRT (Love that keyboard. For that matter I love everything Nieve does)
20. HAND IN HAND
21. OLIVER'S ARMY (My wife's favorite)
22. BLAME IT ON CAIN
23. LIPSTICK VOGUE (Pete's awesome, isn't he?)
24. WHAT'S SO FUNNY ABOUT PEACE, LOVE AND UNDERSTANDING (Only one of the greatest songs ever recorded)

BURN THIS!

DOORS

08/03/2005

"YOU CANNOT PETITION THE LORD WITH PRAYER!"

For a band that only put out six studio albums, I can't tell you how difficult this was. I LOVE THE DOORS! A truly unique sound with that organ and pedal bass, great songwriting from Robbie Kreiger, a powerful jazz drummer in John Densmore, and one of the great baritone vocalists in rock history in Jim. Amazing how underrated a singer the Lizard King is for a man who continues to sell millions of CD.s. I'm really angry at myself that many of his great ballad work is not being represented on this disc. WISHFUL SINFUL, SUMMER'S ALMOST GONE, THE CRYSTAL SHIP should all be on here. As well as MY EYES HAVE SEEN YOU, PEACE FROG, LAND HO!, QUEEN OF THE HIGHWAY, THE CHANGELING, BREAK ON THROUGH, SOUL KITCHEN, THE END (Sorry, it's truly a great work, but way too long for this disc. Watch APOCALYPSE NOW), I CAN'T SEE YOUR FACE IN MY MIND, THE MOVIE, THE WASP, YOU'RE LOST LITTLE GIRL, and the live version of ROADHOUSE BLUES should all be on here. My apologies.

1. ROADHOUSE BLUES (What a great blues singer he was)
2. LOVE STREET
3. LOVE ME TWO TIMES
4. THE SOFT PARADE
5. HELLO I LOVE YOU
6. YOU MAKE ME REAL
7. LA WOMAN (Ever see the video?)
8. SPANISH CARAVAN
9. LIGHT MY FIRE
10. RUNNIN' BLUE
11. WHEN THE MUSIC'S OVER
12. TOUCH ME (I've been known to sing this one live if a band lets me)
13. YES, THE RIVER KNOWS
14. WILD CHILD (Great video to this too)
15. PEOPLE ARE STRANGE
16. THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER
17. MOONLIGHT DRIVE (What a lyric)
18. NOT TO TOUCH THE EARTH (Maybe my most played Doors tune ever)

BURN THIS!

MARVIN GAYE

08/14/2005

I once asked Philly soul singer legend Len Barry who was the greatest singer of all time and he looked at me like I was crazy. "There's only one!", he said. "Marvin Gaye!" Singer, songwriter, sculpture of his own sound (when that wasn't an easy feat to accomplish at Motown), who knows what Gaye would have gone on to create if his life hadn't ended so tragically young. Geez, MIDNIGHT LOVE, one of his last albums, gave us SEXUAL HEALING and was one of his greatest works ever. I never, never tire of listening to Gaye and on top of all this, he might have been the greatest duet singer of all time. I miss him, don't you? Songs that were hard to leave off, INNER CITY BLUES, PLEASE STAY, ROCKIN' AFTER MIDNIGHT, TILL TOMORROW, IF THIS WORLD WERE MINE, TROUBLE MAN, THE END OF THE ROAD, COME GET TO THIS and HOW CAN I FORGET.

1. HEAVEN SENT YOU, I KNOW (With Kim Weston) His greatest song ever. Period.
2. SEXUAL HEALING Singers keep covering this. Forget it, it can't be done!
3. WHAT'S GOING ON
4. IT TAKES TWO (With Kim Weston)
5. LET'S GET IT ON (Sexiest song ever recorded)
6. HITCHHIKE
7. YOU'RE ALL I NEED TO GET BY (With Tammi Terrell)
8. MIDNIGHT LADY
9. PRIDE AND JOY
10. ONCE UPON A TIME (With Mary Wells) Seek this one out.
11. TURN ON SOME MUSIC
12. I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE (Have to admit I like Gladys's version better)
13. IF I COULD BUILD MY WHOLE WORLD AROUND YOU (With Tammi Terrell)
14. STUBBORN KIND OF FELLOW
15. GOT TO GIVE IT UP Impossible not to dance to. Impossible!
16. AIN'T NO MOUNTAIN HIGH ENOUGH (With Tammi Terrell)
17. TOO BUSY THINKING ABOUT MY BABY
18. YOU'RE A WONDERFUL ONE
19. AIN'T NOTHING LIKE THE REAL THING (With Tammi Terrell)
20. FOREVER
21. LITTLE DARLING I NEED YOU
22. HOW SWEET IT IS (TO BE LOVED BY YOU) Although, Jr. Walker's version kicks ass
23. HOW CAN I FORGET
24. AIN'T THAT PECULIAR
25. MERCY MERCY ME (THE ECOLOGY)
26. YOUR PRECIOUS LOVE (With Tammi Terrell)
27. STAR SPANGLED BANNER It was so terrific and original that now it's copied so horribly, I almost wish he didn't do it.

BURN THIS!

BOB DYLAN
ROBERT ZIMMERMAN
09/19/2005

There were exactly fifty (50!) cuts that I had to break down to the twenty tunes that made this list. Only the Beatles have had more. Someday I'll do separate acoustic and electric discs. But for now, RULES ARE RULES. Eighty minutes. That's all I have. I would list the tunes that broke my heart to leave off, but I'm sure I'll be hearing from you.

1. LIKE A ROLLING STONE Might as well kick it off with his crowning achievement.
2. SHE BELONGS TO ME
3. I DON'T BELIEVE YOU Elvis Costello based his whole career on this song, I swear.
4. TOMBSTONE BLUES Long live Michael Boomborg
5. ON A NIGHT LIKE THIS
6. MASTERS OF WAR Wish someone would have listened.
7. HIGHWAY 61 REVISITED
8. YOU'RE A BIG GIRL NOW "Biograph" version. There's a live version off HARD RAIN that might have made it, but it clocked in over seven minutes.
9. I SHALL BE RELEASED Acoustic version
10. BALLAD OF A THIN MAN Has ANYONE ever written a song like this?
11. POSITIVELY 4TH STREET I was wrong. THIS is the tune Costello based his whole career on. Nastiest song ever written?
12. DEAR LANDLORD
13. QUEEN JANE APPROXIMATELY
14. I WANT YOU
15. YOU BELONG TO ME Off the NATURAL BORN KILLERS soundtrack. Seek it out. I have played this song a million times, no kidding.
16. IT TAKES A LOT TO LAUGH, IT TAKES A TRAIN TO CRY
17. LEOPARD-SKIN PILLBOX HAT Raw sex!
18. I THREW IT ALL AWAY
19. SUBTERRANEAN HOMESICK BLUES First rap song ever?
20. RAINY DAY WOMEN #12 & 35 I know it's silly, but it's just so much fun!

BURN THIS!

LED ZEPPELIN

10/04/2005

Not often one four man band has arguably two of the greatest ever at their instrument but Zep did with Jimmy Page and John Bonham. And for a good five year period no one had more of a unique and powerful voice than Robert Plant. If albums and CD's had some sort of a meter on it that showed how often you played it, the first Led Zeppelin record would surely be in my Top Five ever played. Like the first Hendrix album, it sounded like it fell from another planet. My play LAST CALL was filled with Glenn Miller music and I still found room for HEARTBREAKER in it. It says a lot of the endurance of this band that they lit up the phone lines on Thursday morning more than any other artist INCLUDING The Beatles. The song that was mentioned the most the other morning? BLACK DOG. And I never even liked the song. I'm sure i'm going to get a ton of angry mail over leaving KASHMIR off. Not one acoustic number made the list (unless you count STAIRWAY) and there's plenty that I love. WHEN THE LEVEE BREAKS particularly broke my heart to leave off, but what are you gonna do? There's only 80 minutes to choose from and the fifteen songs that made it represent the smallest number of songs on any BURN THIS!

1. COMMUNICATION BREAKDOWN Does a song get any faster than this?
2. I CAN'T QUIT YOU BABE
3. HOW MANY MORE TIMES Have to put these three tunes in order.
4. HOUSES OF THE HOLY
5. ROCK N' ROLL One of the greatest drum intro's ever.
6. SINCE I'VE BEEN LOVING YOU My fav Zep tune ever that includes the highest single note any singer ever hit.
7. THE OCEAN
8. DAZED AND CONFUSED Hate that middle part but the devastating power chord payoff is worth it.
9. THANK YOU Beautiful lyric.
10. DANCING DAYS
11. THE LEMON SONG
12. HEARTBREAKER
13. YOU SHOOK ME
14. I CAN'T QUIT YOU BABE (LIVE FROM THE BBC) Listen to that vocal intro! Seek this out.
15. STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN The fact that it's as played out as it is and I STILL love it speaks volumes.

BURN THIS!

THE STONES

10/13/2005

Saw them tonight for the millionth time which is the reason why I am breaking the normal alphabetical order of things. My ball, my rules. Charlie was incredible by the way. Here's the weird thing about the songs that made this list. Almost every one of them is one of their classics. If you look at many of my other BURN THIS! lists you'll notice that many obscure tunes would sneak in. I could easily have added forty different songs, but leaving off MONKEY MAN, LET IT BLEED, SALT OF THE EARTH, YOU GOT THE SILVER, SHE SMILED SWEETLY, START ME UP, HAND OF FATE, the YA-YA version of STREET FIGHTING MAN, the studio version of JUMPING JACK FLASH, the live version of ROUND AND ROUND, EVERYBODY NEEDS SOMEBODY TO LOVE, HANG FIRE and countless others really pained me.

1. SYMPATHY FOR THE DEVIL... One of their few tunes to feature a guitar solo and what a great Keith solo it is. That's Keith on bass also. Great lyric.
2. HAPPY... I can be partial to Keith vocals
3. LET'S SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER
4. AS TEARS GO BY
5. GIMME SHELTER
6. JUMPIN' JACK FLASH... (LIVE VERSION)
7. UNDER MY THUMB
8. RIP THIS JOINT
9. PAINT IT, BLACK
10. STRAY CAT BLUES
11. CONNECTION
12. HONKY TONK WOMAN
13. SATISFACTION
14. YOU CAN'T ALWAYS GET WHAT YOU WANT... Anyone know who drums on this? It's not Charlie.
15. OUT OF TIME
16. BROWN SUGAR
17. LIVE WITH ME... When I was in DEWEY STREET, I actually sang this as I drummed. Can you imagine how awful that must have been?! Thank god there's no tape.
18. BITCH
19. STREET FIGHTING MAN
20. SHE'S A RAINBOW... The late, great Nicky Hopkins on piano.
21. SHATTERED... Anyone remember who plays bass on this one? It's not Wyman.

BURN THIS!

THE KINKS

10/25/2005

God Bless The Kinks! I was standing in my kitchen at 7025 Elmwood when I first heard YOU REALLY GOT ME come blasting out of the little transistor and you would have to had be there to understand how magnificent and rocking that song truly was. Way ahead of it's time. How was I to know then that someday the same band could produce a song as beautiful as WATERLOO SUNSET or as whimsical as HOLIDAY? On top of this they were one of my fav live bands because you never new what you were gonna get. SOBER OR DRUNK! And the Battling Davies brothers might have been more glorious pissed. I've never stopped playing their music and I never will. (By the way, I'm still not sure where we are alphabetically anymore. I still haven't put up Hendrix or Aretha or Genesis. I'll catch up, I swear) Enjoy some Kinks.

1. YOU REALLY GOT ME
2. ALCOHOL (LIVE) "yes, indeed, my little chick-a-dee."
3. WATERLOO SUNSET
4. TILL THE END OF THE DAY
5. SHE BOUGHT A HAT LIKE PRINCESS MARINA My MOST PLAYED Kinks tune ever. Makes me think of my Mother.
6. SITTING IN MY HOTEL "If my friends could se me now"
7. VICTORIA
8. DO YOU REMEMBER WALTER?
9. TIRED OF WAITING FOR YOU The first song the first street-corner group that I ever put together sung.
10. 20TH CENTURY MAN
11. YES SIR, NO SIR
12. SITTING IN THE MIDDAY SUN
13. ALL DAY AND ALL OF THE NIGHT
14. MR. PLEASANT Seek this rare one out.
15. SHANGRI-LA
16. DRIVING
17. HOLIDAY Adam Sandler made a whole career out of ripping this song off.
18. END OF THE SEASON Off the very underrated SOMETHING ELSE.
19. SUNNY AFTERNOON Pure Ray.
20. THE VILLAGE GREEN PRESERVATION SOCIETY
21. BRAINWASHED
22. A WELL RESPECTED MAN
23. LAZY OLD SUN

BURN THIS!

BRUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUUCE

Ridiculously impossible. First of all, no boots. Could have done ten other 80 minutes CD's just on boots. NO BOOTS. No Christmas songs either. Big surprise that only sixteen songs made it. 16! That's the fewest of any BURN THIS! yet.

There were four songs over seven minutes long that I just couldn't leave off, so that really screwed up the list. Here's the songs that absolutely pained me to leave off.

- SHERRY DARLING
- RAMROD (NYC LIVE VERSION)
- WRECK ON THE HIGHWAY
- JOHNNY 99
- HIGHWAY PATROLMAN
- STATE TROOPER
- OPEN ALL NIGHT
- THUNDERCRACK
- SEASIDE BAR SONG
- I'M GOING DOWN
- DANCING IN THE DARK
- MY HOMETOWN
- TOUGHER THAN THE REST
- BRILLIANT DISGUISE
- YOU'RE MISSING
- WAITING ON A SUNNY DAY
- LET'S BE FRIENDS (SKIN TO SKIN)
- ICEMAN
- STREETS OF PHILADELPHIA
- SECRET GARDEN
- PARADISE BY THE "C"
- JESUS WAS AN ONLY SON
- IT'S HARD TO BE A SAINT IN THE CITY (Studio AND live version)
- FOR YOU
- TENTH AVENUE FREEZE OUT
- SPIRIT IN THE NIGHT

Now here's the Glorious 16! (Incredibly, this came out to EXACTLY 80 minutes.)

1. JUNGLELAND
2. BORN TO RUN
3. THUNDER ROAD
4. BADLANDS/OUT IN THE STREETS (Live in NYC)
5. DOWNBOUND TRAIN
6. NO SURRENDER
7. PINK CADILLAC
8. THE FEVER
9. MEETING ACROSS THE RIVER
10. ROSALITA (COME OUT TONIGHT)
11. GROWING UP
12. USED CARS
13. KITTY'S BACK
14. SO YOUNG AND IN LOVE
15. CANDY'S ROOM

BURN THIS!

ARETHA FRANKLIN

1. RESPECT
2. NATURAL WOMAN
3. THINK
4. AIN'T NO WAY
5. BABY, I LOVE YOU... (LIVE)
6. CHAIN OF FOOLS
7. I NEVER LOVED A MAN
8. DR. FEELGOOD (LIVE)
9. SINCE YOU'VE BEEN GONE
10. I SAY A LITTLE PRAYER
11. COME BACK BABY (LIVE)
12. DON'T PLAY THAT SONG
13. FREEWAY OF LOVE
14. UNTIL YOU COME BACK TO ME
15. MONEY WON'T CHANGE YOU
16. GOOD TO ME AS I AM TO YOU
17. DON'T LET ME LOSE THIS DREAM... (LIVE)

XMAS CDs

1. JAMES BROWN... FUNKY CHRISTMAS
2. NAT KING COLE... THE CHRISTMAS SONG
3. VINCE GUARALDI... A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS
4. DEAN MARTIN... A WINTER ROMANCE
5. GLENN MILLER... IN THE CHRISTMAS MOOD
6. PHILADELPHIA MUMMERS ASSOCIATION... 'TIS THE SEASON
7. JACK QUIGLEY... CHRISTMAS UNPLUGGED
8. FRANK SINATRA... CHRISTMAS SONGS (COLUMBIA)
9. PHIL SPECTOR... A CHRISTMAS GIFT FOR YOU
10. STEVIE WONDER... SOMEDAY AT CHRISTMAS

BURN THIS!

GENESIS

1. SUPPER'S READY
2. HAROLD THE BARREL
3. THE CINEMA SHOW
4. HORIZONS
5. THE MUSICAL BOX
6. THE LAMB LIES DOWN ON BROADWAY
7. WATCHER OF THE SKIES
8. MORE FOOL ME
9. CAN-UTILITY AND THE COASTLINERS
10. FIRTH OF FIFTH

BEN FOLDS

1. ROCKIN' THE SUBURBS
2. PHILOSOPHY
3. BRICK
4. DON'T CHANGE YOUR PLANS
5. ANNIE WAITS
6. JACKSON CANNERY
7. ARMY
8. FRED JONES PART 2
9. ONE ANGRY DWARF AND 200 SOLEMN FACES
10. JULIANNE
11. LULLABYE
12. SONG FOR THE DUMPED
13. ZAK AND SARA
14. SPORTS & WINE
15. KATE
16. BEST IMITATION OF MYSELF
17. CIGARETTE
18. BOXING
19. STEVIE'S LAST NIGHT IN TOWN
20. GONE
21. ALICE CHILDRESS
22. NOT THE SAME
23. UNCLE WALTER

BURN THIS!

VAN MORRISON

1. JACKIE WILSON SAID
2. GLAD TIDINGS
3. GLORIA
4. COME HERE MY LOVE
5. YOUNG LOVERS DO
6. CALL ME UP IN DREAMLAND
7. HEAVY CONNECTION
8. MOONDANCE
9. I'VE BEEN WORKING
10. I WILL BE THERE
11. INTO THE MYSTIC
12. ASTRAL WEEKS
13. REDWOOD TREE
14. EVERYONE
15. CRAZY FACE
16. YOU'RE MY WOMAN
17. BEIN' GREEN
18. CARAVAN
19. THESE DREAMS OF YOU

STEVIE WONDER

Since I have 14 CD's by wonder, this is really gonna be tough. He's one of my Top Ten musical God's. A brilliant songwriter, a funny performer, arguably the most influential singer EVER, a multi-instrumentalist, and if he did nothing else but play the harmonica, he STILL would have been famous. Oh yeah, he's blind. By the way, even though Stevie might have made the single greatest Christmas CD EVER (SOMEDAY AT CHRISTMAS), there's no Xmas music included here. That's a separate BURN THIS!

1. FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE
2. I WISH
3. LIVING FOR THE CITY
4. OVERJOYED
5. UPTIGHT
6. SIR DUKE
7. SIGNED SEALED DELIVERED
8. LATELY
9. HIGHER GROUND
10. IF YOU REALLY LOVE ME
11. YOU AND I
12. DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT A THING
13. LOVE'S IN NEED OF LOVE TODAY
14. VILLAGE GHETTO LAND
15. IF IT'S MAGIC
16. PASTIME PARADISE
17. ALL IN LOVE IS FAIR
18. I WAS MADE TO LOVE HER
19. KNOCKS ME OFF MY FEET
20. MY CHERIE AMOUR