

1982 ends with some good and bad notes



Despite economic turndowns in the music industry, Americans were still treated to a good share of well-produced songs and albums throughout 1982. Exceptionally fine releases by The Who (above left), Soft Cell (left) and Billy Joel (above) top the list of the year's most worthwhile music.



It is man's nature to make lists. We all live by them in one form or another. Although I cannot even consider to hit everything that has happened in music in the past year, I am concentrating my efforts on what I define as "mainstream," what you would usually hear on a rock or pop radio station and what would also have the potential to hit "the charts."

By RON YEANY Collegian Staff Writer

I have been a good year for many new artists and a bad year for some established acts. We saw some new figures come, and some other figures pass away. But whatever 1982 could be called, it certainly won't be "boring."

This past year saw new and big acts such as Asia, Men At Work, Stray Cats and Aldo Nova hit it big, while such older acts as Queen, Heart, and REO Speedwagon found the going unusually tougher.

The industry saw the loss of some of its important members, such as John Belushi, who had taken his Saturday Night Live act with Dan Aykroyd, The Blues Brothers, to a Number 1 album with platinum status. 1982 also saw the passing of Neil Bogart, one of the industry's most influential members and the president and founder of Boardwalk Records. Also, James Honeyman Scott, a great guitarist from the The Pretenders, met an untimely death.

Many awards were also handed down, the most prestigious of which were the Grammys, swept this year by Quincy Jones who walked away with five awards, including the producer of the year. The Grammys also awarded (posthumously) the Album of the Year award to the late Beatle John Lennon.

I've dissected the year, week by week, and have come up with my own list of what can be considered the best and worst output of the year by artists in the recording industry. Some of us absolutely hate a song when we hear it, others may love a song. And this year saw many of both pass. Remember, though, the criteria for a good song is its musical and lyrical excellence, not necessarily its popularity.

Without further ado, here are my ten worst songs of the year:

- 1. "Body Language" - Queen
2. "Man On The Corner" - Genesis
3. "Muscles" - Diana Ross
4. "Industrial Disease" - Dire Straits
5. "Jack and Diane" - John Cougar
6. "Steppin' Out" - Joe Jackson
7. "Down Under" - Men At Work
8. "Baby Makes Her Blue Jeans Talk" - Dr. Hook
9. "Take Me Down" - Alabama
10. "I've Never Been To Me" - Chertels

But 1982 also saw many very good songs, and here they are:

- 1. "HOT SPACE" - Queen
2. "GOOD TROUBLE" - REO Speedwagon
3. "SILK ELECTRIC" - Diana Ross
4. "PRIVATE AUDITION" - Heart
5. "SUCCESS HASN'T SPOILED ME" - Rick Springfield
6. "LADIES" - Billy Joel
7. "Tainted Love/Where Did Our Love Go" - Soft Cell
8. "NIGHT AND DAY" - Joe Jackson
9. "I've Never Been To Me" - Chertels

Honorable mentions include: Journey's "Open Arms"; Hall and Oates' "Maneater"; Adam Ant's "Goody Two Shoes"; Squeeze's "Black Coffee in Bed"; Asia's "Wildcat Dreams"; and Paul McCartney's "Wandelust."

The past year also saw the return of Toto to substantial sales with its big hit "Rosanna" and Foreigner also saw its biggest hit, "Waiting For A Girl Like You," spend more than two months at Number 2.

Album sales were down in 1982 because of a floundering economy and material that seemed to be suffering from an incurable disease, leaving summer album sales far below the usual mark.

The worst albums of the year are as follows: 1. HOT SPACE - Queen. The long-awaited follow-up to the success of the Game had but little grace, the "Under Pressure" duet with David Bowie, though it was also contained on a previous Greatest Hits package.

2. GOOD TROUBLE - REO Speedwagon. Hi Infidelity was 1981's biggest-seller because it charmed the nation with the band's tried and true formula of good time rock that was snappy and in tune with the year's biggest disappointment.

3. SILK ELECTRIC - Diana Ross has had a considerable amount of material out recently, but it has steadily gone downhill, beginning with "Endless Love" and finally (and hopefully) ending with "Private Audition" ending with this year's biggest disappointment.

4. PRIVATE AUDITION - Heart. Heart has had a considerable amount of material out recently, but it has steadily gone downhill, beginning with "Endless Love" and finally (and hopefully) ending with "Private Audition" ending with this year's biggest disappointment.

5. SUCCESS HASN'T SPOILED ME - Rick Springfield. Oh Rick, but it has. Springfield promised a lot with Working Class Dog, but fell into a teen-pop idiom from the band's blatantly elementary pain aimed at sixth-grade girls who buy Teen Beat magazine.

6. LOVE WILL TURN YOU AROUND - Kenny Rogers. It was good for a while, ending with "Lady." Now it's just plain boring. Rogers has done nothing but mine the same old vein over and over again. Rogers should stick to his country roots or jump into the pop mainstream because nice things don't happen to guys sitting on a picket fence.

7. STILL LIFE - Rolling Stones. You might get some argument if you say that the Stones are the greatest rock and roll band, but they are certainly in the running. Still Life, unfortunately, is a live album from the band's 1982 tour that lacks the intensity of the live performance, failing in this way.

8. NEBRASKA - Bruce Springsteen. OK, I know the "most personal" and "brave effort" arguments. I agree. The album sold well and, surprisingly, picked up some airplay in American music.

9. "Down Under" - Men At Work. This tune became the anthem of Australia, and is fairly popular in American charts. This follow-up to the Number 1 "Who Can It Be Now?" is the best Australia has to offer, which is nothing to scoff at.

10. "Heavy Metal" - Sammy Hagar. From his Standing Hampton II and also from the soundtrack to the movie of the same name, this song is energetic and immediate with some of the year's best guitar playing.

along the way. But it's still a well-written effort that's bleak and boring, making a statement that the future from these Men.

8. NIGHT AND DAY - Joe Jackson. Night and Day takes a sometimes bright, sometimes bleak look at city life. This turns into a concept album in the finest sense, not outrightly so but it makes its intended statement while tackling some of society's burning questions.

9. IT'S HARD - The Who. The Who wrapped up its touring career in promotion of this album, the band's strongest in years. Enough can't be said for the output of Pete Townshend this year, who may have reached his peak with The Who and outgrown the restraints of the band.

10. GET CLOSER - Linda Ronstadt. Ronstadt's vocals, obviously, have been enhanced by her "Pirates of Penzance" stay on Broadway, and Get Closer is a diverse and vital outing for her, putting her back into contention as music's First Lady.

Honorable mentions include: Genesis' Three Sides Live; Elton John's Jump Up; Stray Cats' Built For Speed; Elvis Costello's Imperial Bedroom; Squeeze's Sweets From A Stranger; and The Clash's Combat Rock.

1983 promises to be a banner year, for the advent of video and such stations as MTV, the music business is taking leaps and bounds. New products from Christopher Cross and Boston are expected during the first part of the year to start the ball rolling, as the industry needs an upswing in sales to keep in business. That about wraps up 1982. Happy Holidays, and keep on rockin'.

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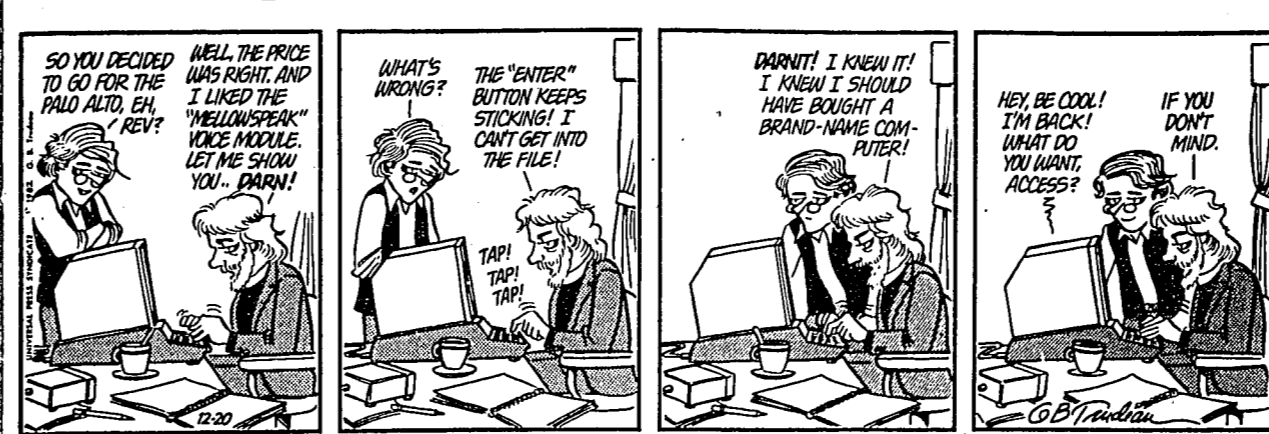
1982 was also a year for some musical disappointments. New material from Mick Jagger (top right) and the Rolling Stones, Nancy and Ann Wilson of Heart (right) and Diana Ross proved to be bland and ultimately undesirable.



peanuts



doonesbury



biff & al



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Crossword puzzle grid and clues. Across: 1 Old Dominion, 2 To make iridescent, 3 Small ridge, 4 George Sand's monogram, 5 Sulfur native, 6 Young mayflies, 7 Death charge (slang), 8 See beforehand, 9 Article, 10 Tunesian dry measure, 11 Rump, 12 Shredded, 13 Old English (abbr.), 14 22nd Hebr. letter, 21 Grate, 22 Water back, 26 Mortar mixer, 28 Maturation of an egg, 30 Baltic river, 40 American ostrich, 43 Dried blue, 44 Savon god, 45 Bole export, 46 Hot Lips, for one, 48 Brand name, 52 Dated, 53 Flattopped hill, 57 Olive picker, 58 Cook and Pops! 60 Lofly, 61 Constellation, 63 Prefix containing iodine, 64 Upper social class, 65 Cligraph, 66 Scott, variation of done, 67 Color, 68 Not offended, 32 Middle ages ship, 33 New Zealand district, 36 500 sheets, 38 Grower-like, 39 Discolored, 41 High tide (abbr.), 42 - bomb, 43 Competition, 46 Single scoop (2 wds.), 47 Cotton, 50 Symbol for cesium, 51 Ghoules ghosts and quarters, 52 - Whittier, 53 - Whitby, 54 Dialect (abbr.), 56 Bar stool, for instance (2 wds.), 57 - Whitby, 58 - Whitby, 59 - Whitby, 61 Not a buck, 62 Son of Ra, 63 - Whitby, 64 - Whitby, 65 Sulfur person

The Brothers and Little Sisters of Pi Kappa Alpha wish to congratulate our newest sisters of the Shield and Diamond: Allison Caryl Carpenter, Patricia Ann Ferrante, Janet Barbara Gutman, Sarah Hoadley Hamlen. And warmly welcome our winter '83 Little Sister Pledge Class: Susan Julia Denny, Brenda Ann Jenkins, Julie Anne McDonald, Carol Ann Rusbosin, Maria Louise Sepe, Debra Jane Smith, June Mary Yankowski, Jean Marie Zwikas

BEAT GEORGIA PEP RALLY. 4 P.M. Dec. 31, 1982. South Parking Lot Superdome New Orleans, LA. Release Valve Night advertisement.