

The Best of Entertainment '92

Our writers pick the years best films and tunes

by Liam O'Mahony
The Collegian

Top 5 Albums of 1992

1) *Check Your Head:* Beastie Boys

After a three year hiatus, the Beasties returned to rock the music scene once again. After appearing on Arsenio Hall and the David Letterman Show, the Beasties toured Europe and the Northeast performing their new hits as well as older ones. "So What'cha Want" and "Pass the Mic" are the most noticeable rap songs on the new LP, but the Beasties play their instruments and sing on "Gratitude," "Lighten Up," and "Time for Livin'."

2) *2Pacalypse Now:* 2Pac

The star of "Juice" had quite a year, as his debut album was dope for the streets. The former member of Digital Underground went solo and took no prisoners in the rap music industry. "If My Homie Calls" and "Violent" are hittin' songs. Also, "Brenda's Got a Baby" is a song based on a true story from the California streets.

3) *Guerrillas in the Mist:* Da Lenchmob

Ice Cube's posse released this unforgettable debut in early fall. Straight outta South Central, Da Lenchmob's hardest songs are "Buck tha Devil" and "You and Your Heroes." "Lord Have Mercy" is a slower rap song that asks for help in life and death in violence-torn Los Angeles.

4) *Shorty the Pimp:* Too Short

Short Dog's back in the house for 1992! Oaktown's mack does it again with slammin' songs like "In the Trunk," "I Want to Be Free," and "Something to Ride to." His slow-type gangster rhymes remain consistent, and Hammer couldn't touch him in Oakland.

5) *Malcolm X:* Motion Picture Soundtrack/ Various artists

If you've seen the movie, then you know the music is powerful to the feeling you get near the end. This is a diverse, distinct sound of the African-American experience. The first track, "Revolution," performed by Arrested Development proves they are a talented group concerned with the social struggles. Ray Charles sings "That Lucky Old Sun Just Rolls Around Heaven" as Malcolm X is about to face his death. Aretha Franklin ends the soundtrack with "Someday We Will All Be Free." I hope she's right.



by Rick Kastan
The Collegian

Top 5 Albums of 1992

(in no particular order)

Girlfriend: Matthew Sweet

Incredible third album from Sweet didn't catch on with the buying public despite, being one of the best albums I have heard in many, many years. The key to Sweet's success is his diversity, with one song influenced by Neil Young's Harvest and the next by The Beatles White Album, he weaves a tapestry both hard-edged and sensitive. Contains the dynamic title track. A must get.

Amused to Death: Roger Waters

Dark and forboding, Waters' third solo album since his departure from Pink Floyd is possibly his best yet. Again examining the history of war on the planet Earth, Waters creates his usual atmosphere of pain and regret through shock and repetitiveness. Songs vary from great to O.K., but taken as a whole, the album is truly classic (and it even has a happy ending).

Singles... Soundtrack

Stellar soundtrack from Cameron Crowe's filmatic examination of the life of twentysomethings living in Seattle. Music from Alice in Chains, Pearl Jam, Soundgarden and Mother Love Bone raises this one far above usual soundtrack status. Head-banging at its best.

Dream Another Dream: Nuclear Valdez

This buried treasure was a big surprise for me. Equal parts rock and pop, this band has a lot of integrity and shows great promise in the future. Album, while always remaining entertaining, has songs to please everyone, from fast to the almost (but thankfully not-quite) danceable. A unique find to say the least.

Uh-Huh: David Byrne

Latest album from former leader of the Talking Heads is more fun than anything else. Songs like "Now I'm Your Mom" (about a parent telling his child the news of his sex change operation) can't really be taken seriously but are good for an enjoyable listen and a good laugh. Future transsexuals take note!



By Jennifer Toubakaris
The Collegian

Top 5 Movies of 1992

(in no particular order)

The Hand that Rocks The Cradle

This psycho thriller proved to be one of the scariest, heart-pounding movies of 1992. Rebecca DeMornay did an excellent job playing the psychotic woman that the entire country learned to love to hate! The plot got a little unbelievable at times, but the anticipation of the next stunt that DeMornay was going to pull put everything together.

Patriot Games

Maybe I am a little biased, but I loved this movie, (probably because it has Harrison Ford in it). If you want adventure, this is the movie for you. The politics of the movie gets to be confusing, but the loops the movie throws you will keep you at the edge of your seat.

Beauty and the Beast

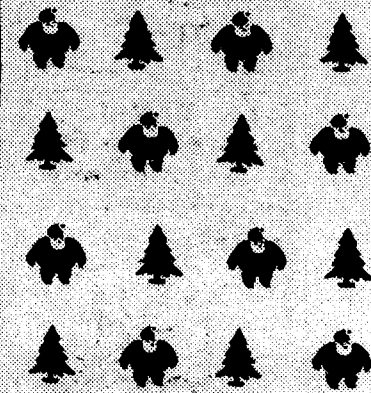
Disney never seems to disappoint us when it comes out with a movie. This classic tale of romance captures the hearts of both the young and the old. Its detailed graphics, wonderful soundtrack, and loveable characters will make everybody a believer of magic in the end.

The Last of the Mohicans

This historic saga with Daniel Day Lewis was excellent! The adventure, romance, and wonderful soundtrack made this movie a must-see! Don't let the length of the movie scare you; the action and battle scenes move this adventure along!

The Bodyguard

Action and romance; two words that pop into my mind when thinking of this movie. Kevin Costner plays the bodyguard assigned to protect Whitney Houston from a potential murderer. Guess What? The two fall in love, but don't be deceived the ending isn't as predictable!



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Top 5 Movies of 1992

(in no particular order)

Aladdin

The best Disney movie I have ever experienced in a theater and possibly the most enjoyable film that the company has ever put out. *Aladdin* is simply irresistible. Children's tale will entrance kids while comedians Robin Williams and Gilbert Gottfried will have adults howling. Finally a comedy for the entire family.

The Killer

Explosive foreign film from Chinese director John Woo racks up the most surrealistically high body count in film history. No fooling, the amount of people that actually die on-camera is well into the 1,000's making this the most action packed flick of the year. Plot concerns a hit-man who, when he accidentally blinds a woman while performing a hit, starts to do killings to get her a cornea transplant. Now available on video.

Split Second

Strange science fiction flick has Rutger Hauer as a London cop (?) who has a psychological link to a mad killer roaming the streets. Low on intelligence but high on action and humor this is one of the best films to portray true comic-book atmosphere. Minor but good film in a year lacking good films.

Deep Cover

Thriller about a mildly psychotic cop (Larry Fishburne) going undercover to put the pinch on the drug cartel is an absolute stunner. It is truly painful to watch as Fishburne kills and sells crack to his own people to infiltrate the mob only, to have the rug pulled out from under him by his superiors. Also with Jeff Goldblum, it is now available on video.

The Player

Robert Altman's film is the blackest of the black comedies. Tim Robbins plays an amoral movie producer who is receiving death treats from an writer he once shunned. Strange story follows him as he tracks down a suspect, murders him and steals his girlfriend only to find out he has killed the wrong man. Brilliant script perfectly portrays the superficialities of the movie business while containing 101 cameos.



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Top 5 Movies of 1992

1) *Malcolm X*

Spike Lee's portrayal of the martyred prophet of African-American pride goes down as a classic epic. It should be the movie of the year. The long-awaited release was well worth it for many people. Denzel Washington's performance as Malcolm X was inspiring, and his speeches brought the similar fire that Malcolm X had in 1965.

2) *Juice*

This was a disappointment at the box-office due to the media's portrayal of several isolated incidents of violence at the theaters. Most people waited for it to come out on video. It was the story of four Harlem youth who commit a robbery to get respect, but everything goes awry. The soundtrack was dope, and rapper 2Pac starred in it.

3) *Aladdin*

Disney's new holiday release was received well by the critics and the public. The story of a magical lamp, its genie, and a pheasant boy in love with a princess. Robin Williams brought laughter in his role as the great genie, as did Gilbert Godfrey as the evil parrot. This is a must-see for the holiday season.

4) *Deep Cover*

This was well-received by some movie-goers, and starred Larry Fishburne and Jeff Goldblum. Fishburne assumes the most dangerous role on the streets; that of an undercover cop who goes down as a drug dealer. The soundtrack included a variety of sound including Dr. Dre (N.W.A) and reggae king Shabba Ranks.

5) *Boomerang*

Eddie Murphy's long-awaited return to the big screen brought a lot of praise. Murphy directed and starred with Robin Givens in this refreshingly funny story of corporate office romance. Murphy gets himself in trouble for his involvement with two female employees. The soundtrack included BoyzIIMen's hit, "The End of the Road."

