



MID-'60s CLASSICS





- ACTION Freddy Cannon
- 2 YEH, YEH
 Georgie Fame and the Blue Flames
- DON'T LET THE RAIN COME DOWN
 (CROOKED LITTLE MAN)
 The Serendipity Singers
- JAVA Al Hirt
- BIG MAN IN TOWN The 4 Seasons
- Don't Worry Baby
 The Beach Boys
- REMEMBER (WALKING IN THE SAND)
 The Shangri-Las
- IT HURTS TO BE IN LOVE Gene Pitney
- (a) I'M A FOOL Dino, Desi and Billy
- O CARA, MIA Jay and the Americans
- HURT SO BAD

 Little Anthony and the Imperials

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I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOUR LOVE Petula Clark

NEEDLES AND PINS The Searchers

TURN-DOWN DAY The Cyrkle

NASHVILLE CATS The Lovin' Spoonful

YOU'VE GOT TO HIDE YOUR LOVE AWAY The Silkie

I ONLY WANT TO BE WITH YOU Dusty Springfield

NO MATTER WHAT SHAPE (YOUR STOMACH'S IN) The T-Bones

THOU SHALT NOT STEAL Dick and Dee Dee

YES, I'M READY Barbara Mason

HOLD ME, THRILL ME, KISS ME











BARBARA

ARCTIC RECORD CE

s the commercial folk boom of the early 1960s gave way to electrified folk-rock in the middle of the decade (when the British Invasion was at its peak), a whole new school of hits, nearhits and one-hit wonders was created. The Silkie provide a perfect example.

Vocalist Silvia Tatler and her three instrumentalists were folk purists who got together at England's Hull University, After building an audience on the British folk circuit, they were signed by Beatles manager Brian Epstein. When their debut single flopped, Epstein induced them to record the John Lennon-Paul McCartney tune YOU'VE GOT TO HIDE YOUR LOVE AWAY, from the Beatles flick Help! John, Paul and George helped produce and played on the Silkie's version, but it proved the group's only chart appearance. Epstein improved his score with the Cyrkle, a Pennsylvania folk-rock group he managed that enjoyed two hits, the second of which was TURN-DOWN DAY. At least the Cyrkle got to tour America with the Beatles in 1966; thanks to perennial visa problems, the

Silkie never even made it to the States.

The Searchers' NEEDLES AND PINS inadvertently helped invent the folk-rock sound. Jackie DeShannon barely creased the 1963 charts with the song, co-written by Sonny Bono (pre-Cher) and Phil Spector arranger Jack Nitzsche. But the Liverpool group the Searchers, introduced to Needles and Pins while listening to British rocker Cliff Bennett at the infamous Star Club in Hamburg, Germany, liked the tune enough to make it their next single.

They used two six-string guitars playing in unison on the intro, and when their engineer accidentally left the echo switch on, they wound up with the approximate sound of a 12-string. It was the first folk-rock hit with that sound, which quickly became such a convention that the group had to go out and buy a real 12-string just to keep up



Friends since grammar school,
Dick (St. John Gosting) and Dee Dee
(Sperling) were attending Santa Monica
High when they had their first hit in
1961. Their finale was the cautionary
THOU SHALT NOT STEAL. The
Serendipity Singers were University
of Colorado students when they scaled
the top 10 with DON'T LET THE
RAIN COME DOWN (CROOKED
LITTLE MAN). After getting as far as
Hootenanny, network television's feeble
attempt to cash in on the folk craze,
they managed just one more top-40
single before disappearing.

The Lovin' Spoonful, however, were quintessential folk-rock. A Greenwich Village good-time jug band that went electric in the wake of the Beatles and Dylan, they first charted in 1965 with the anthem Do You Believe in Magic.

Among the classics they recorded over the next two years was a tribute to country music, NASHVILLE CATS.

Dusty Springfield, meanwhile, was exiting folk-rock. Under her real name of Mary O'Brien, she had sung with an early-'60s British pop trio called the Lana Sisters. She changed her name while forming the folk-rock group the Springfields, who brought Silver Threads and Golden Needles to the States in 1962. But when Dusty went solo in 1963, she took a more Motowninfluenced course. I ONLY WANT TO BE WITH YOU was the very first record ever played on the BBC's landmark Top of the Pops TV show; it was also the second hit single of the British Invasion, appearing on American charts the week after the Beatles exploded with I Want to Hold Your Hand.

Petula Clark and Georgie Fame show what widely varying acts got carried in with the British wave. The latter entered the music biz early in the decade as an Elvis-inspired rocker, but turned jazzier and then toward hardcore rhythm and blues with his band the Blue Flames. He was one of the most popular London R&B acts, though in the States that translated into only modest success with YEH, YEH (which was No. 1 in England) and a flukish top 10 in 1968 with The Ballad of Bonnie and Clyde. But Pet Clark—a World War II child star who made her first movie in 1944 and her first record in 1949—was a steady hit-maker in the U.S.A. after 1964, thanks to catchy, middle-of-the-road fare like I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOUR LOVE.

Despite the onslaught from across the Atlantic, Americans retained the upper hand on the charts during this era. The Beach Boys made increasingly ambitious records after a 1964 nervous breakdown led leader Brian Wilson to stop touring. He conceived DON'T WORRY BABY as a sort of competitor and follow-up to Phil Spector's Ronettes hit Be My Baby. When he'd heard that one on the car radio, Wilson wondered aloud if he could ever match it, and his wife, Marilyn, patted him on the shoulder and said, "Don't worry baby" as encouragement. He remembered the phrase when he and DJ Roger Christian sat down together to write.

The 4 Seasons were the East Coast group most comparable to the Beach Boys in stature.

With member
Bob Gaudio doing most of the writing, Frankie Valli singing lead and Bob
Crewe producing, they racked up hits steadily
from 1962 through 1968. BIG MAN IN TOWN
was one of the more interesting, though far
from the most successful.

New Orleans trumpeter Al Hirt lucked onto the charts with a remake of JAVA, adapted from a 1958 album of piano instrumentals by Tousan. The pianist, under his real name of Allen Toussaint, was the Crescent City's leading producer and songwriter through the '60s. But back in '58, he'd been a relative nobody hired by publishers Danny Kessler and Murray Sporn to play behind some auditioning hopefuls—and the two talent scouts wound up turning thumbs down on all the singers while deciding to cut an album with the pianist. Java may refer to rich New Orleans coffee, but it might also be the name of a racehorse—Kessler was a notorious bettor and supposedly

OM'S STAR
RENDIPITY
(GERS)

named most of the Tousan instrumentals after favorite nags.

After three drag-racing LPs at the height of the surf era, the T-Bones scored with their instrumental NO MATTER WHAT SHAPE (YOUR STOMACH'S IN), which was written for them as an Alka Seltzer commercial. The group later evolved into early-'70s harmonizers Hamilton. Joe Frank and Reynolds.

Freddy Cannon made his share of exuberant, noisy hits beginning in 1959, but ACTION, the theme for the TV beach dance party Where the Action Is, was the last to go top 40. Jay and the Americans came out of Brooklyn with a comparable string of pop rockers, but CARA, MIA proved most enduring; released again in Holland in 1980, it went straight to No. 1.

IT HURTS TO BE IN LOVE caught former Connecticut electronics student Gene Pitney, a thrilling singer and imaginative writerarranger, at peak performance. Dino, Desi and Billy were, respectively, the sons of Dean Martin, Desi Arnaz and the real estate broker who sold houses to both stars. They recorded I'M A FOOL, their first and biggest hit, on Frank Sinatra's label after Frankie caught them rehearsing one afternoon over at Dino's pad. The Shangri-Las, two sets of sisters from Queens, were the toughest of the white girl groups. Producer Shadow Morton used them and REMEMBER (WALKING IN THE SAND) to launch his Red Bird label.

With the intoxicating YES, I'M READY, Philly singer Barbara Mason served as a bridge between girl groups and soul balladeers. Little Anthony and the Imperials, who emerged from Brooklyn in 1958 with the doowop ballad Tears on My Pillow, broke up from 1960 to 1964 before returning with the same basic sound on the likes of HURT SO BAD. The Temptations disliked BEAUTY IS ONLY SKIN DEEP, but Motown released it anyway. The Norman Whitfield production, with David Ruffin singing lead, immediately became one of their best-loved grooves and helped ensure that it would be impossible to talk about the mid-160s without waxing ecstatic over Detroit soul.

-John Morthland

• DISCOGRAPH

- ACTION Freddy Cannon Music and lyrics by Steve Venet and Tommy Boyce. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. BMI. Warner Bros. 5645 (1965). Courtesy of Freddy Cannon. No. 13**
- YEH, YEH Georgie Fame and the Blue Flames

 Music and lyrics by Rodgers Grant, Pat Patrick and Jon Hendricks. Mongo Music. BMI. Imperial 66086 (1965).
 Courtesy of EMI, a Division of Capitol Records, Inc., under license from CEMA Special Markets. No. 21*
- 3 DON'T LET THE RAIN COME DOWN (CROOKED LITTLE MAN) The Serendipity Singers * Music and lyrics by Ersel Hickey and Ed E. Miller. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc./Serendipity Publishing Corp. BMI. Philips 40175 (1964). Courtesy of PolyGram Special Products, a Division of PolyGram Group Distribution, Inc. No. 6*
- 4 JAVA Al Hirt Music by Freddy Friday, Allen Toussaint, Alvin Tyler and Marilyn Schack. Pideland Music Publishing Corp. BMI. RCA Victor 8280 (1964). Courtesy of BMG Music/The RCA Records Label, under license from BMG Direct Marketing, Inc. No. 4*
- 5 BIG MAN IN TOWN The 4 Seasons Music and lyrics by Bob Gaudio. Longitude Music Co./Seasons Four Music. BMI. Philips 40238 (1964). Produced under license from The Four Seasons Partnership by arrangement with Warner Special Products. No. 20*
- 6 DON'T WORRY BABY The Beach Boys Music and lyrics by Brian Wilson and Roger Christian. Irving Music, Inc. BMI. Capitol 5174 (1964). Courtesy of Capitol Records, Inc., under license from CEMA Special Markets. No. 24*
- 7 REMEMBER (WALKING IN THE SAND) The Shangri-Las* Music and lyrics by George E. Morton. Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc/Tender Tunes Music, Inc/Trio Music Co., Inc. BMI. Red Bird 008 (1964). Courtesy of Sun Entertainment Corp. No. 5*

- 8 IT HURTS TO BE IN LOVE Gene Pitney Music and lyrics by Howard Greenfield and Helen Miller. Jobete Music Co., Inc. ASCAP. Stone Agate Music/Stone Diamond Music Corporation. BMI. Musicor 1040 (1964). Courtesy of Highland Music, Inc. No. 7*
- 9 I'M A FOOL Dino, Desi and Billy Music and lyric by Joey Cooper and Red West. Atlantic Music Corp. BMI. Reprise 0367 (1965). Produced under license from Warner Bros. Records Inc. No. 17*
- CARA, MIA Jay and the Americans Music and lyrics by Tulio Trapani and Lee Lange. EMI Feist Catalog Inc. ASCA United Artists 881 (1965). Courtesy of Capitol Records, Inc., under license from CEMA Special Markets. No. 4*
- HURT SO BAD Little Anthony and the Imperials • Music and lyrics by Teddy Randazzo, Bobby Hart and Bobby Wilding, Songs of PolyGram International, Inc. BMI. DCP 1128 (1965). Courtesy of Capitol Records, Inc., under license from CEMA Special Markets. No. 10*
- BEAUTY IS ONLY SKIN DEEP The Temptations Music and lyrics by Eddie Holland and Norman Whitfield. Stone Agate Music. BMI. Gordy 7055 (1966). Courtesy of Motown Record Company, L.P. No. 3*
- 13 I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOUR LOVE Petula Clark • Music and lyrics by Tony Hatch and Ron Harvey. Northern Music Company/Welbeck Music adm. by MCA Music Publishing, a Division of MCA Inc. ASCAP, Warner Bros. 5835 (1966). Courtesy of GNP Crescendo. No. 9*
- NEEDLES AND PINS The Searchers Music and lyrics by Sonny Bono and Jack Nitzsche. EMI Unart Catalog Inc. BMI. Kapp 577 (1964). Courtesy of Castle Communications PLC. No. 13*
- TURN-DOWN DAY The Cyrkle Music and lyrics by Jer Keller and David Blume. Northern Music Company. ASCAP. Columbia 43729 (1966). Under license from Sony Music Speci. Products, a Division of Sony Music Entertainment, Inc. No. 169



- NASHVILLE CATS The Lovin' Spoonful Music and lyrics by John B. Sebastian. Alley Music Corp./Trio Music Co., Inc. BMI. Kama Sutra 219 (1967). Courtesy of Buddah Records, a Division of Essex Entertainment, Inc. No. 8*
- YOU'VE GOT TO HIDE YOUR LOVE AWAY The Silkie • Music and lyrics by John Lennon and Paul McCartney. Northern Songs adm. by Music Corporation of America, Inc. BMI. Fontana 1525 (1965). Courtesy of PolyGram Special Products, a Division of PolyGram Group Distribution, Inc. No. 10*
- B I ONLY WANT TO BE WITH YOU Dusty Springfield • Music and lyrics by Mike Hawker and Ivor Raymonde. Chappell & Co. ASCAP. Philips 40162 (1964). Courtesy of PolyGram Special Products, a Division of PolyGram Group Distribution, Inc. No. 12*
- NO MATTER WHAT SHAPE (YOUR STOMACH'S IN) The T-Bones • Music and lyrics by Granville Burland. c/Hear Services, Inc. BMI. Liberty 55836 (1966). Courtesy of Capitol Records, Inc., under license from CEMA Special Markets. No. 3*
- THOU SHALT NOT STEAL Dick and Dee Dee Music and lyrics by John D. Loudermilk. Acuff-Rose Music, Inc. BMI. Warner Bros. 5482 (1964). Produced under license from Warner Bros. Records Inc. No. 13*
 - YES, I'M READY Barbara Mason Music and lyrics by Barbara Mason. Dandelion Music Co./Jamie Music Publishing Co./Stilran Music Publishing Company. BMI e/o Benasutti and Murray. Arctic 105 (1965). Courtesy of Jamie Record Company. No. 5*
 - 2 HOLD ME, THRILL ME, KISS ME Mel Carter Music and lyrics by Harry Noble. Mills Music, Inc. ASCAP. Imperial 66113 (1965). Courtesy of EMI, a Division of Capitol Records, Inc., under license from CEMA Special Markets, No. 8*



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^{*}Indicates highest Billboard chart position



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- 4 JAVA Al Hirt
- 5 BIG MAN IN TOWN The 4 Seasons
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- 8 IT HURTS TO BE IN LOVE Gene Pitney
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- BEAUTY IS ONLY SKIN DEEP 12
 The Temptations
- I COULDN'T LIVE WITHOUT YOUR LOVE Petula Clark
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 - TURN-DOWN DAY The Cyrkle
- NASHVILLE CATS The Lovin' Spoonful
 YOU'VE GOT TO HIDE YOUR LOVE
 - AWAY The Silkie

 I ONLY WANT TO BE WITH YOU

 Output Spring field
- Dusty Springfield
 NO MATTER WHAT SHAPE
- (YOUR STOMACH'S IN) The T-Bones
 THOU SHALT NOT STEAL 20
 - Dick and Dee Dee
 - YES, I'M READY Barbara Mason
 - HOLD ME, THRILL ME, KISS ME

 Mel Carter