

160. GENERATION

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- CRY LIKE A BABY The Box Tops
- I THINK WE'RE ALONE NOW Tommy James and the Shondells
- LAST TRAIN TO CLARKSVILLE The Monkees
- **SLOOP JOHN B** The Beach Boys
- BOTH SIDES NOW Judy Collins
- SPINNING WHEEL Blood, Sweat & Tears
- AQUARIUS/LET THE SUNSHINE IN (THE FLESH FAILURES) The 5th Dimension
- I SAW HER AGAIN The Mamas & the Papas
  - **DIZZY** Tommy Roe
  - MR. TAMBOURINE MAN The Byrds
  - 1-2-3 Len Barry

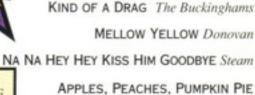
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THE '60s

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INIVERSAL MUSIC



GENERATION

Jay and the Techniques

LITTLE BIT O' SOUL The Music Explosion

LOVE IS ALL AROUND The Troggs

SOCIETY'S CHILD (BABY I'VE BEEN THINKING) Janis Ian

SAN FRANCISCO (BE SURE TO WEAR FLOWERS IN YOUR HAIR) Scott McKenzie

HOLD ME TIGHT Johnny Nash

TIME HAS COME TODAY The Chambers Brothers

THE PIED PIPER Crispian St. Peters

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In since the '60s started out as a jet-age extension of the '50s. Radio stations still played catchy pop songs with catchy melodies, but the special effects got more elaborate. High-gloss studio enhancements tickled the ear, stimulated record sales and showed how much pop had become a medium for showcasing the producers as well as the artists. The electric guitar became a magician's wand, casting a moody spell that complemented lyrics that veered from simpler love ballads to more cerebral and controversial themes.

With wistful lyrics, an irresistible tune and a mesmerizing flute, British singer-guitarist Crispian St. Peters reflected the period's hopeful and naive temperament on THE PIED PIPER. His proposition to step in line and escape the self-doubting masquerade was too beautiful to resist and probably too good to be true. And as the decade progressed, others would offer their own solutions for attaining bliss and enlightenment. Even if some of the messages were a bit dubious, the songs carrying them could at least deliver on the promise of providing heavenly acoustical adventures.

In America, much of the new music focus was on southern California. The



CRIST

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I THINK WE

TOM

Bob Dylan also fell under technology's spell and ended up shocking his fan base when he appeared on stage at the 1965 Newport Folk Festival lugging a guitar with a cord attached. That is probably why he devoted part of the album Bringing It All Back Home to his new electric pursuits 45 RPM No 19089 Arranged by Jimmy Wisner A Cordell-Gentry Conception

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but also appeased the purists with a selection of acoustic material like MR, TAMBOURINE MAN. It did not take long, however, for the Byrds to plug it into an amplified soundscape. As harmonizers, some of the band's members already had credentials. Roger (then James) McGuinn once appeared with the Chad Mitchell Trio, while David Crosby piped for Les Baxter's Balladeers, But their daring musicianship made the ultimate difference. The jingle-jangle of McGuinn's 12-string guitar-along with other surrealistic touches-made this haunting story about inspired insomnia a No. 1 sleeper by the early summer of 1965.

ASH

San Francisco enjoyed its own musical upheaval, one bathed in even brighter Day-Glo hues. Showcasing stars as diverse as Janis Joplin and Ravi Shankar, the nearby Monterey Pop Festival of 1967 helped to

spearhead a well-publicized bacchanalia of urban tribalism. But the most dedicated flower children would soon hold their own mock funeral, proclaiming the death of hippiedom as mainstream media co-opted the Summer of Love. A symptom of both the actual counterculture and its commercial appeal, Scott McKenzie celebrated this strange vibration with an anthem that John Phillips of the Mamas & the Papas co-wrote, SAN FRANCISCO (BE SURE TO WEAR FLOWERS IN YOUR HAIR). Even back then, its winning tune had the makings of an ideal jingle for the ultimate Bay Area travel ad. Today, when pop historians want an instant memory-lane reference to those times, this is the one that says it all.

There were, of course, songs reflecting themes still considered risqué. The Mamas & the Papas alluded to their own extramarital intrigues in the 1966 release 1 SAW HER AGAIN. Here, they combined their honeyed harmonies with a somewhat manic tempo and the backing of a lush orchestra—all in a clever effort to embellish lyrics about the troublesome real-life affair between "Mama" Michelle Phillips and "Papa" Denny Doherty. The following year, Tommy James and the Shondells toyed with the cheeky issue of youthful indiscretion on 1 THINK We'RE ALONE NOW. This protest song against meddling parents and society bears a close thematic resemblance to Keep Searchin' (We'll Follow the Sun), Del Shannon's previous entry about desperate teenagers on the run.

In 1967, New York City-born singer Janis Ian was a sixteen-year-old upstart vying for stardom. Fate granted her a chance to proselytize her declaration about forbidden interracial love on the hit SOCIETY'S CHILD (BABY I'VE BEEN THINKING), recorded in 1966. Initially, many radio stations thought the subject too prickly for airplay, but all that changed when famed conductor Leonard Bernstein allowed her to sing it on his televised special. Ian's highly original tune and compelling voice (maybe even the eerie instrumental ending) secured the record a respectable niche in the top 20.

In the meantime, the ever-innovative bards from the British Isles continued to spin their folkrock permutations. Donovan, the gently Celtic answer to the coarser Dylan, underwent a similar conversion from acoustic virginity to the pleasures of the electrical banana. Along with its beguiling repetitions and Paul McCartney's near-subliminal whispers, MELLOW YELLOW implied a mouthwatering recipe for psychoactive euphoria. It gave song lyric interpreters (and perhaps antidrug crusaders) plenty to digest. A bigger British surprise arrived in the U.S. in 1968, when the Troggs (notorious for celebrating the raw and the raunchy) went proudly sentimental with LOVE IS ALL AROUND. Instead of relying on grating garage guitars and hormonal howls, lead singer Reg Presley flowed to a soothing bass line, basked on a bed of pretty strings, and seemed to truly enjoy this interlude of romanticism, which still sounds as if it were written on the wind.

LAST TRAIN TO

For addicts of super-sweetened pop, the Americans also maintained their steady supply of sonic sugardust. After all, this was also proclaimed the era of bubblegum. Tagged as the "Prefab Four," the Monkees had put out many smartly crafted hits and owed a chunk of their success to producer Don Kirshner. Their 1966 release of LAST TRAIN TO CLARKSVILLE was a hit even before the group's renowned television show made its debut. But even its crisp Beatlesque guitar work could not forestall controversy over the fact that others were doing the actual playing. So, as the '60s sensibility got more head-centered, the Bubby Mart

ARKSWILLE

Monkees felt pressured to seem more authentic. They insisted on manning their own instruments, adopted more far-out fashions and sought to lace some of their newer material with a transcendental shimmer.

DOY COLLINS

Amid vibrant terms such as "cosmic consciousness," "mind-expansion" and "mystic crystal revelation," the late '60s became an audio-visual indulgence not unlike some of the more extravagant Technicolor musicals. The love of showmanship was certainly one factor the '60s generation shared with its parents. By 1968, as Jefferson Airplane appeared on the same Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour as Kate Smith, the Broadway cast of Hair performed on the Tonight Show. Hair proved how quickly entertainment media could bank on the glamour of a social movement while it was still happening. This selfproclaimed "tribal love-rock" song-and-dance revue may have transposed the human be-in from the tourist-lined Haight-Ashbury district to the Great White Way, but the 5th Dimension took it

to the top 40 with their release of the medley AQUARIUS/LET THE SUNSHINE IN.

Beneath the veneer of rebellion, the '60s generation managed to retain tuneful traditions from America's Tin Pan Alley and Britain's music-hall days. Still, the aesthetic and political changes were too overwhelming not to leave subsequent pop with a bittersweet aftertaste. Judy Collins' 1968 recording of Joni Mitchell's BOTH SIDES NOW provided a smart commentary. In the guise of a dulcet little tune, it sizes up the fragile game of love head-on, offering what could be a warning against all of those pied pipers who touted free love as an easy option. By 1970, Collins' record had become a major hit in both America and the U.K., and it continues to assert its staying power as a period piece. Strangely enough, its greatest impact has been as a middle-of-the-road favorite. This, like some of the other tracks assembled here, proves that with a pleasing voice and enough musical savvy, even a song about love's illusions can become a feel-good standard in that Valhalla for vocalists commonly known as adult contemporary.

-Joseph Lanza

## • DISCOGRAPH

CRY LIKE A BABY The Box Tops . (Pennington-Oldham) Mala 593 (1968) No. 2\* Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. BMI. Courtesy of Arista Records, Inc.

I THINK WE'RE ALONE NOW Tommy James and the Shondells . (Ritchie Cordell) Roulette 4720 (1967) No. 4\* EMI Longitude Music. BMI. Produced Under License From Rhino Entertainment Co. By Arrangement With Warner Special Products.

LAST TRAIN TO CLARKSVILLE The Monkees . (Boyce-Hart) Colgems 1001 (1966) No. 1\* Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc. BMI, Produced Under License From Rhino Entertainment Co. By Arrangement With Warner Special Products,

SLOOP JOHN B The Beach Boys • (Brian Wilson) Capitol 5602 (1966) No. 3\* New Executive Music, BMI. Courtesy Capitol Records, Under License from EMI-Capitol Music Special Markets.



BOTH SIDES NOW Judy Collins . (Joni Mitchell) Elektra 45639 (1968) No. 8\* Siquomb Publishing Corp. BMI. Produced Under License From Elektra Entertainment Group.

SPINNING WHEEL Blood, Sweat & Tears . (David Thomas) Columbia 44871 (1969) No. 2\* Bay Music/ EMI Blackwood Music Inc. BMI. Under License From Sony Music Special Products, A Division Of Sony Music, A Group Of Sony Music Entertainment Inc.

AQUARIUS/LET THE SUNSHINE IN (THE FLESH FAILURES) The 5th Dimension . (Rado-Ragni-Terence-MacDermot) Soul City 772 (1969) No. 1\* EMI U Catalog Inc. ASCAP. Courtesy of Arista Records, Inc.

I SAW HER AGAIN The Mamas & the Papas . (Phillips-Doherty) Dunhill 4031 (1966) No. 5\* Universal MCA Music Publishing, a division of Universal Studios Inc. ASCAP. Courtesy of MCA Records.

DIZZY Tommy Roe . (Roe-Weller) ABC 11164 (1969) No. 1\* Low-TWI Music Inc./Young World Music Inc. BMI. Courtesy of MCA Records.

10 MR. TAMBOURINE MAN The Byrds • (Bob Dylan) Columbia 43271 (1965) No. 1\* Special Rider Music. SESAC. Under License From Sony Music Special Products, A Division Of Sony Music, A Group Of Sony Music Entertainment Inc.



1 1-2-3 Len Barry • (Madara-White-Borisoff) Decca 31827 (1965) No. 2\* EMI Blackwood Music Inc./Mijac Double Diamond Music/Stone Agate Music/Universal Champion Music Corporation/Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Co. BMI. Courtesy of MCA Records.



KIND OF A DRAG The Buckinghams + (James Holvay) U.S.A. 860 (1966) No. 1\* Bag of Tunes/Daphne Music Company, BMI. Under License From Sony Music Special Products, A Division Of Sony Music, A Group Of Sony Music Entertainment Inc.

MELLOW YELLOW Donovan . (Donovan Leitch) Epic 10098 (1966) No. 2\* Donovan Music Ltd. PRS. Peer International Corp. BMI. Under License From Sonv Music Special Products, A Division Of Sonv Music, A Group Of Sony Music Entertainment Inc.



NA NA HEY HEY KISS HIM GOODBYE Steam . (DeCarlo-Frashuer-Leka) Fontana 1667 (1969) No. 1\* Snug Music/Wixen Music Publishing Inc. ASCAP. Courtesy of the Island Def Jam Music Group,



5 APPLES, PEACHES, PUMPKIN PIE Jay and the Techniques . (Maurice Irby) Smash 2086 (1967) No. 6\* Maurice Irby Music/Spirit One Music. BMI. Courtesy of the Island Def Jam Music Group.



LITTLE BIT O' SOUL The Music Explosion . (Carter-Lewis) Laurie 3380 (1967) No. 2\* Songs of Peer Ltd. ASCAP. Courtesy EMI-Capitol Music Special Markets.



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17 LOVE IS ALL AROUND The Troggs • (Reg Presley) Fontana 1607 (1968) No. 7\* Universal Songs of Polygram Inc. BML Courtesy of the Island Def Jam Music Group.

SOCIETY'S CHILD (BABY I'VE BEEN THINKING) Janis Ian • (Janis Ian) Verve 5027 (1967) No. 14\* Taosongs Two, BMI, Courtesy of Universal Records, a division of UMG Recordings, Inc.

SAN FRANCISCO (BE SURE TO WEAR FLOWERS IN YOUR HAIR) Scott McKenzie . (John Phillips) Ode 103 (1967) No. 4\* Universal MCA Music Publishing, a division of Universal Studios Inc. ASCAP, Under License From Sony Music Special Products, A Division Of Sony Music, A Group Of Sony Music Entertainment Inc.

HOLD ME TIGHT Johnny Nash . (Johnny Nash) JAD 207 (1968) No. 5\* Dovan Music Inc. ASCAP, Under License From Sony Music Special Products, A Division Of Sony Music, A Group Of Sony Music Entertainment Inc.

TIME HAS COME TODAY The Chambers Brothers . (Chambers-Chambers) Columbia 44414 (1968) No. 11\* Careers BMG Music Publishing Inc./Spinnaker Music. BMI. Under License From Sony Music Special Products, A Division Of Sony Music, A Group Of Sony Music Entertainment Inc.

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\* Indicates highest Billboard chart position

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HOLD ME TIGHT Johnny Nash

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