



Perfect Harmony

◆ AM GOLD ◆

PERFECT HARMONY



- 1 PUT A LITTLE LOVE IN YOUR HEART
Jackie DeShannon
- 2 PUT YOUR HAND IN THE HAND *Ocean*
- 3 EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL *Ray Stevens*
- 4 ME AND JESUS *Tom T. Hall*
- 5 LAY DOWN (CANDLES IN THE RAIN)
Melanie with the Edwin Hawkins Singers
- 6 DAY BY DAY *Godspell Cast*
- 7 YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE *Debby Boone*
- 8 WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD
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UNIVERSAL MUSIC
Special Editions



PERFECT HARMONY

GO GOLD

- 1 Put a Little Love in Your Heart
- 2 Put Your Hand in the Hand
- 3 Everything Is Beautiful
- 4 Me and Jesus
- 5 Lay Down (Candles in the Rain)
- 6 Day by Day
- 7 You Light Up My Life
- 8 What a Wonderful World
- 9 United We Stand
- 10 Bridge Over Troubled Water
- 11 He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother
- 12 Be Thankful for What You Got
- 13 Oh Happy Day
- 14 Morning Has Broken
- 15 I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing (In Perfect Harmony)
- 16 I Don't Know How to Love Him
- 17 Why Me
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- 19 Spirit in the Sky
- 20 Superior

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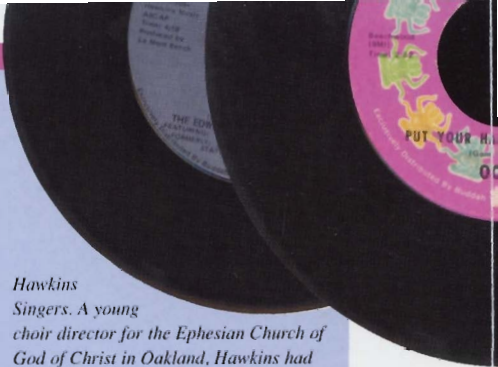
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UNIVERSAL MUSIC
 SPECIAL MERCHANDISE



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As the '60s gave way to the '70s there was definitely **SOMETHING IN THE AIR**, in the words of Thunderclap Newman's transcendent hit. Songs celebrating spirituality and community were everywhere. It was a marriage of '60s idealism and '50s innocence, wedding the legacy of the counterculture with traditional institutions like church and family. By the early '70s, a new sort of soul-searching suffused the popular arts, in theater (Jesus Christ Superstar and Godspell), books (Zen & the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance), cinema (Pasolini's The Gospel According to St. Matthew and Zeffirelli's Brother Sun, Sister Moon, about the life of St. Francis of Assisi), and especially music: Not only was God not dead, He was ruling the pop charts.

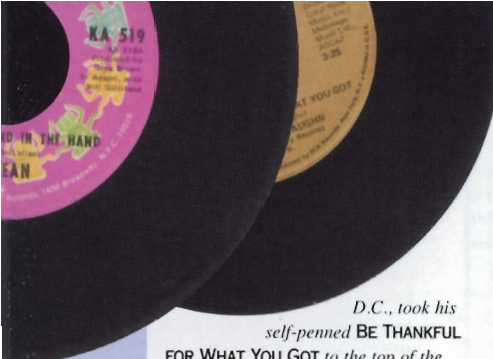
Raised Catholic by Ukrainian-Italian parents in Queens, Melanie Safka (a.k.a. Melanie) planned to become a nun but pursued a music career instead. Performing at Woodstock during a rainstorm, she was inspired by the crowd lighting votives in the downpour. **LAY DOWN (CANDLES IN THE RAIN)**, a highlight of her 1970 debut album, featured backup vocals by the Edwin

Hawkins Singers. A young choir director for the Ephesian Church of God of Christ in Oakland, Hawkins had made history the year before when his ensemble's joyous **OH HAPPY DAY**, an arrangement based on an 18th-century Baptist hymn, became the first sacred song to crack the pop top 5. And few performers did more to popularize black gospel music than Aretha Franklin. The daughter of a renowned Detroit preacher, she brought sanctified fervor to everything she recorded, as on her definitive cover of Simon & Garfunkel's **BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER**.

Choirlike group harmonies and religious themes held sway as popular music became an outlet for everyman optimism in the face of turbulent times. R&B singer William DeVaughn, a Jehovah's Witness from Washington,



HARR



D.C., took his self-penned **BE THANKFUL FOR WHAT YOU GOT** to the top of the R&B charts and earned a No. 4 crossover success. The Toronto gospel-rock quintet Ocean, led by Janice Morgan, came from total obscurity to score a No. 2 smash with **PUT YOUR HAND IN THE HAND**. The radio-friendly sing-along was written by Gene MacLellan who also composed Snowbird for fellow Canadian Anne Murray. Across the Atlantic, producer Tony Hiller assembled his studio group Brotherhood of Man as a British counterpart to the 5th Dimension. The male-female quartet obliged with **UNITED WE STAND**, which reached No. 13 in 1970.

One of the most memorable '70s pop anthems, **I'D LIKE TO TEACH THE WORLD TO SING (IN PERFECT HARMONY)** was first titled True Love and Apple Pie.

Different lyrics and a new score were added for a Coca-Cola™ commercial in a rendition by the New Seekers; the result was an immediate sensation and a massive bestseller in 1971. That same year, **JOY TO THE WORLD** also took a circuitous route to the top. Veteran singer-songwriter Hoyt Axton originally penned the tune for a children's musical, The Happy Song, he hoped to develop for an animated TV special, which never made it to production. After touring as an opener for Three Dog Night, Axton played them his song about a bullfrog named Jeremiah, on acoustic guitar. Newly arranged for the group's signature three-part harmony, **JOY TO THE WORLD** soared to No. 1 in 1971 and has since fulfilled Axton's dream as a favorite for youngsters the world over.

Singer-songwriters were at the vanguard of this spiritual awakening in pop music, intent on making personal statements in their work. London-born Cat Stevens showed a knack for deeply poetic lyrics and catchy melodies.

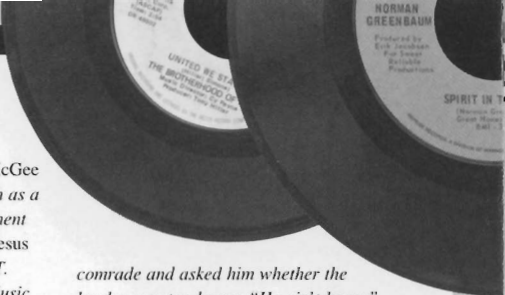
MORNING HAS BROKEN, his adaptation of a beloved children's hymn, featured Rick Wakeman of Yes on piano and reached the top 10 in the U.S. and the

*U.K. Stevens later converted to Islam. Less a mystic than a barroom poet, Texan Kris Kristofferson first gained fame for penning such classics as Me and Bobby McGee and For the Good Times. His breakthrough as a performer came with the gospel-tinged lament **WHY ME**, a top-20 single from his album Jesus Was a Capricorn. Like Kristofferson, Tom T. Hall of Olive Hill, Kentucky, began as a Music City tunesmith known for his story songs. By the late '60s, Hall was riding the country charts as a singer of wry tales like Ballad of Forty Dollars. His rollicking, heartwarming **ME AND JESUS** reached the country top 10 and crossed over to the pop charts. Fellow Kentuckian Jackie DeShannon was one of the '60s most prolific songwriters, providing material for the Byrds and the Searchers, among others. Her first hit as a composer and singer, **PUT A LITTLE LOVE IN YOUR HEART**, made it to the top 5 in 1969.*

*Known for their intricate harmonies, the Hollies enjoyed a string of infectious, up-tempo hits in the '60s, many by members like Graham Nash. As the new decade dawned, the British band stretched out with the wistful ballad **HE AIN'T HEAVY, HE'S MY BROTHER**. Composed by Americans Bob Russell and Bobby Scott, the song had its origin at Boys Town, where Father Flanagan saw a little boy carrying a crippled*

*comrade and asked him whether the burden was too heavy. "He ain't heavy," said the boy, "he's my brother." The voices of singing children on Ray Stevens's **EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL** belong to Stevens's daughters and their classmates; he taped their rendition of the chorus in the elementary school auditorium and added it to the record, which reached No. 1 in 1970.*

*Broadway added to the spirit of the times as well, setting Biblical stories against the backdrop of contemporary songs. Andrew Lloyd Webber's Jesus Christ Superstar: A Rock Opera was the theatrical success story of 1971, not only at the box office but also on the pop charts with the cast soundtrack. As Judas in the original London production, Murray Head scored a top-20 hit with **SUPERSTAR**, backed by the Trinidad Singers; and Yvonne Elliman's Mary Magdalene reached No. 28 with **I DON'T KNOW HOW TO LOVE HIM**. The rock musical Godspell, based on the gospel of St. Matthew, continued the trend the following year. With vocals by original cast*





member Robin Lamont, **DAY BY DAY** celebrated a commitment to Jesus and peaked at No. 13.

No song captured the era's positive vibe better than **SPIRIT IN THE SKY** by one-hit wonder Norman Greenbaum. Raised in Massachusetts, Greenbaum moved to California, where he started a psychedelic jug group, Dr. West's Medicine Show and Junk Band. After embarking on a solo career, he worked out the melody to **Spirit in the Sky** on kazoo. The result, featuring his heavy fuzz-tone guitar riffs, remains one of the all-time favorite classic rock rave-ups and sold two million copies in 1970. The song's heady mix of Christian and New Age sensibilities helped usher in the '70s as an era of good feeling, a theme that still resonates with listeners today.

This late '60s—'70s vibe figured in two additional pop hits cut during this period. **YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE** seemed like a perfect fit for Debby Boone. Her dad was the clean-cut figure of '50s rock 'n' roll, Pat Boone. Debby, who first

appeared with her three sisters on Pat's TV series in 1960, landed a recording contract after finishing high school.

Warner/Curb label owner Mike Curb searched for the right song to launch Debby's solo career, and found it in the movie **You Light Up My Life**. He borrowed the instrumental track and recorded Boone's vocal over it, with her mother praying in the studio as Debby sang. Most people assumed that she was singing about a male-female relationship. Not so—she later claimed that it was her love song to God. Like her dad, Debby had her first hit at the age of 20.

Jazz legend Louis Armstrong was in his sixties when **WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD** left a dent in the Adult Contemporary charts in 1967. He was long gone in 1988 when the song got a second wind thanks to its inclusion in the film **Good Morning, Vietnam** starring Robin Williams. Since then, Armstrong's **Wonderful** voice has cropped up in numerous TV commercials.

—Eddie Dean





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- 3** EVERYTHING IS BEAUTIFUL *Ray Stevens* • (R. Stevens) Barnaby 2011 (1970) No. 1* Ahab Music Company, Inc. BMI. Courtesy of Barnaby Records, Inc., by arrangement with Celebrity Licensing Inc.
- 4** ME AND JESUS *Tom T. Hall* • (T. Hall) Mercury 73278 (1972) No. 98* Acuff Rose Music, Inc. BMI. Courtesy of The Island Def Jam Music Group under license from Universal Music Enterprises.
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- 7** YOU LIGHT UP MY LIFE *Debby Boone* • (J. Brooks) Warner/Curb 8455 (1977) No. 1* Curb Songs/Universal Polygram International Publishing, Inc. ASCAP. © 1977 Curb Records, Inc. Courtesy of Curb Records, Inc.
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- 10** BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER *Aretha Franklin* • (P. Simon) Atlantic 2796 (1971) No. 6* Paul Simon Music. BMI. Produced Under License From Atlantic Recording Corp.
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- 12** BE THANKFUL FOR WHAT YOU GOT *William DeVaughn* • (W. DeVaughn) Roxbury 0236 (1974) No. 4* Delicious Apple Music Corp./EMI Jemaxal Music, Inc./H&R Lastrada Music/Sony/ATV/Melomega Music, Ltd./Music Sales Corp. ASCAP. © 1974 Dominion Entertainment, Inc. Under License from Dominion Entertainment, Inc.
- 13** OH HAPPY DAY *The Edwin Hawkins Singers* • (Adapted by E. Hawkins) Pavilion 20001 (1969) No. 4* Edwin R. Hawkins Music Co./EMI April/Kama Ripa Acct. ASCAP. Under License from BMG Special Products.



- 14** **MORNING HAS BROKEN** *Cat Stevens* • (P. Carrack)
(Arranged by Stevens, Farjeon) A&M 1335 (1972) No. 6*
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- 15** **SUPERSTAR** *Murray Head* • (Rice, Webber) Decca 32603
(1970) No. 74* Universal On Backstreet Music, Inc. ASCAP.
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- 16** **I'D LIKE TO TEACH THE WORLD TO SING (IN
PERFECT HARMONY)** *The New Seekers* • (Davis,
Baeker, Cook, Greenaway) Elektra 45762 (1972) No. 7*
Shada Music, Inc. ASCAP. Produced Under License From
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- 17** **I DON'T KNOW HOW TO LOVE HIM** *Yvonne Elliman* •
(Rice, Webber) Decca 32785 (1971) No. 28* Universal On
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- 18** **WHY ME** *Kris Kristofferson* • (K. Kristofferson)
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- 19** **JOY TO THE WORLD** *Three Dog Night* • (H. Axton)
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- 20** **SPIRIT IN THE SKY** *Norman Greenbaum* •
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