

Press information

What makes them legends?

So you're ready to take the mike and give the performance of your life. Here are some facts about our legends and their tracks which will help put some self belief into your strut...

- **Aretha Franklin - *Respect***

Dubbed the 'Queen of Soul', Franklin is renowned for her unique voice and is the second most honoured popular singer in Grammy history. Aretha Franklin has won eighteen competitive Grammys, eleven of which were awarded for Best Female R&B Vocal Performance. 'Respect', one of her best known and well loved songs, went to number 1 on the US billboard chart in 1967.

- **Blur - *Parklife***

Formed by two art school drop outs, this quintessentially English band filled a void created by the big names of the late seventies and early eighties. Creating in their wake a phenomenon known as 'Brit Pop', this collection of young men has produced seven top albums. In 1995 they also swept up four awards at the Brit Awards for; best album - Parklife; best video - Parklife; best single - Parklife; and best British group.

- **David Bowie - *Life On Mars***

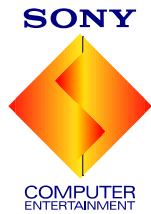
Magical and mysterious, David Bowie has wowed his fans for decades with his quirky beats such as 'Life on Mars' and crazy stage costumes. Drawing his inspiration from all manner of cultural outlets, Bowie has sold an estimated 136 million albums and ranks among the ten best-selling acts in UK pop history.

- **Depeche Mode - *Enjoy The Silence***

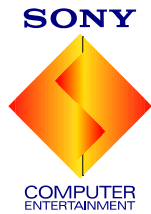
Depeche Mode of 'Enjoy the Silence' fame have sold 72 million albums worldwide and have been a constant fixture in charts around the world since the eighties. The band even has an entire bar devoted to them in Tallinn, Estonia which plays nothing but their videos and music. Among the memorabilia on display is a photo of Martin Gore visiting the bar.

- **Dusty Springfield - *Son of a Preacher Man***

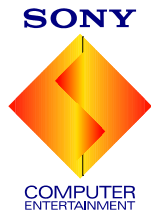
A feisty lady, Dusty Springfield was a blond tomboy from North London who became a famous husky-voiced soul singer. Starting out in a folk band with her brother, Dusty Springfield soon became one of the most recognisable artists of the sixties and seventies with top twenty hits such as 'Son of a Preacher Man'.



- **Elton John - *Rocket Man***
Born Reginald Kenneth Dwight in 1947, this 'Rocket Man' has sold over 250 million records and has had over 50 top 40 hits. John's status as the King of Rock n Roll piano coupled with his distinctive style and wacky glasses has seen his career – and his spending - go from strength to strength. This SingStar legend is once reported to have spent £30 million in two years!!
- **Jackie Wilson - *Reet Petite (The Finest Girl You Ever Want To Meet)***
The original fifties heart throb was best known for his 1957 hit 'Reet Petite'. A gorgeous RnB/ soul artist, Wilson was nicknamed Mr Excitement due to the frenetic nature of his on-stage performances. Shot by a jealous lover in 1984, this ladies' man will be remembered forever.
- **John Lennon - *Imagine***
Known best as the founding member of the legendary band 'The Beatles', John Lennon's memory haunts musical history. Gunned down in his prime in New York in 1980, this musical legend inspired a generation with hits such as 'Imagine'. This SingStar legend remains one of the most iconic figures of the 20th Century.
- **Johnny Cash – *Ring Of Fire***
This country star sold, on average, one million records a year for the fifty years that he was recording and performing. Due to successes such as 'Ring of Fire', Cash has been inducted into the Rock N Roll Hall of Fame, The Country Music Hall of Fame and the Nashville Song Writers Hall of Fame. During his lifetime, Cash wrote over a thousand songs and released dozens of albums.
- **Lynard Skynard - *Sweet Home Alabama***
Lynard Skynard have been described as being "the definitive Southern rock band, fusing the overdriven power of blues-rock with a rebellious Southern image and a hard rock swagger". They are one of the most commercially successful rock groups of the 20th century producing anthems such as 'Sweet Home Alabama'. Lynard Skynard were inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2006.
- **Marvin Gaye - *I Heard It Through The Grapevine***
Ex-Air Force service man Marvin Gaye, was one of the original pioneers of the American motown scene. With such hits as 'I Heard It Through The Grapevine' and 'Whats Going On' Gaye is now an immortal presence for his widely spread fanbase. Marvin Gaye was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. He was given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame three years later in 1990.
- **Nirvana - *Smells Like Teen Spirit***
This hard-headed punk-influenced band arrived in the late 1980s at a time when an apathetic generation needed some guidance. Under Kurt Cobain's leadership, an entire generation were forced to feel the pain of growing up and to mourn the loss of their innocence. 'Smells Like Teen Spirit' was so iconic a hit that it stayed in the US top 20 for 13 weeks.



- **Patsy Cline - Crazy**
This country star is best known for her 1961 hit 'Crazy'. Cline became one of a handful of female country artists to play Carnegie Hall in NYC and later, was the first woman to headline her own show in Las Vegas. Cline died tragically in a plane crash at the age of 30 in 1963.
- **Roxy Music - Love Is The Drug**
Evolving from the last sixties art rock movement, Roxy Music, led by Bryan Ferry were always associated with fashion and glamour. From 1971 to 1983, this English band had a major influence on the English music scene with hits such as 'Love Is The Drug'.
- **Sam Cooke – What A Wonderful World**
Cooke was one of the first modern black performers and composers to attend to the business side of his musical career, during which time he founded both a record label and a publishing company. An active participant in the Civil Rights Movement, this SingStar Legend did what he could to make this a 'Wonderful World'.
- **The Jackson 5 - I Want You Back**
The Jackson 5 performed 'I Want You Back' when their youngest member, Michael, was under twelve. They were one of the first groups ever to have their first four singles placed right at the top of the US billboard charts. One of the earliest examples of a modern boy band, the Jackson Five are still considered to be one of the biggest phenomenons in pop music.
- **The Monkees - Day Dream Believer**
Formed in 1965 for a television show of the same name, The Monkees quickly earned fame for their musical talent as well as their acting ability. All four members of the group were British born and achieved great success in both the US and the UK. Their 1967 hit single 'Day Dream Believer' was placed in the top 20 for ten weeks in the US and 12 weeks in the UK.
- **The Police - Roxanne**
One of the most famous and best looking acts of the 1980s, The Police gained great respect for their reggae/ska influenced 'new wave' melodies. Drawing from wide musical influences, The Police created a unique and evocative new sound. Their hit single 'Roxanne' in 1979 catapulted them to fame and saw them rest in the UK top 20 for five weeks.



- **The Rolling Stones - *Sympathy For The Devil***

This Blues/Rock band has been going strong since 1963 during which time they embarked upon 13 tours. Now in their mid-sixties, the group is still showing no signs of slowing down. In February of 2006, The Rolling Stones played to 1.5 million people on Copacabana Beach where they performed such hits as 'Sympathy For The Devil'.

- **Tina Turner – *What's Love Got To Do With It***

With her deep soulful voice, killer legs and a musical legacy to die for, Tina Turner has made a place for herself in musical history. She started out singing in a show with her husband, Ike Turner, at the age of 18. She then developed into a leading American diva. Tina Turner's final major tour concert in 2000 was the highest grossing act in North America that year.

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