



# CHART COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



Unknown at the start of the year, Another Level prove yet again that they are one of the fastest rising boy bands in the business by landing their third Top 10 hit. Guess I Was A Fool debuts at number five this week, after selling more than 52,000 copies. It does so despite retailing at a minimum of £2.99, compared to most high profile releases of late – including all last week's top five – which have generally retailed at

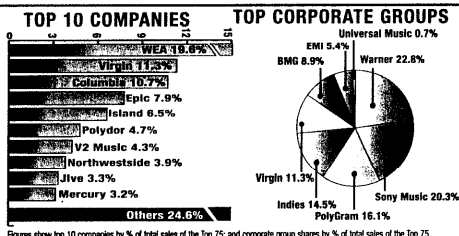
£1.99, at least on their first week. Another Level have sold over 600,000 singles already, reaching number six with Be Alone No More and number one with Freak Me. All three singles are included on their self-titled debut album, which is released next week. The only 1998 newcomers to sell more singles are B\*Witched and LeAnn Rimes – though Five, who debuted last year have also sold more singles this year.

Of 25 singles to debut at number one so far in 1998 (a record, naturally) only eight have remained at number one for a second week, and only two have increased their sales in week two. Aqua's Dr. Jones sold only 102,000 copies on its debut week in February, increasing to 117,000 – a 14% hike – the following week. The second single to buck the trend is Cher's Believe, which does so despite a rather more impressive first week sale of 167,000. It stays top with more than 205,000 new buyers last week, nearly three times as many sales as George Michael's Outside, which stays at number three. Taking third place, Touch & Go's novelty Would You...? sold 57,000 copies. Believe is already the 28th biggest seller of 1998, and will be just outside the Top 10 next week. It seems certain to become Cher's biggest hit ever, and her second platinum single, alongside her 1991 chart-topper It's In His Kiss.

Fugees star Pras Michel registers his

## MARKET REPORT

### AT A GLANCE WEEKLY MARKET SHARES



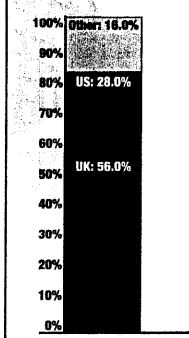
### SALES UPDATE



second consecutive smash with Blue Angels, which debuts at number six. Like Ghetto Supastar, it is based on a song written by

the Bee Gees. Ghetto Supastar used Islands In The Stream, a big hit for Kenny Rogers and Dolly Parton, while Blue Angels is based

### PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART



around Grease, the Frankie Valli hit. Another Bee Gees composition, I Started A Joke, debuts a trifle disappointingly for Faith No More at number 49, while 911's version of More Than A Woman, a Gibb brothers gift to the Tavares, slips 9-20. Steps' version of Tragedy should debut in a fortnight, while it's likely that another record based on Grease – The Word by Dope Smugglaz – will be a hit before long. The 911 and Steps covers were recorded for the Bee Gees tribute album on Polydor, whence also appears the Robbie Williams & The Orb and Faith No More.

Exactly 12 years after becoming a number 12 hit for Cyndi Lauper, True Colors debuts at number 26 for Phil Collins. It's his 28th hit outside of Genesis, and historically, it's one of his smaller hits, though its debut position is higher than the peaks attained by his last two singles, 1996's It's In Your Eyes, which reached number 30, and Wear My Hat, a number 43 single last year.

## THE YEAR SO FAR... TOP 20 SINGLES

1 MY HEART WILL GO ON	CELINE DION	EPIC
2 IT'S LIKE THAT	RUN D.M.C. VS JASON NEVINS	SM:J/E COMMUNICATIONS
3 NO MATTER WHAT	BOYZONE	POLYDOR
4 C'EST LA VIE	B*WITCHED	GLOW WORM/EPIC
5 HOW DO I LIVE	LEANN RIMES	CURB/THE HIT LABEL
6 GHETTO SUPASTAR [THAT IS WHAT YOU ARE]	PRAS MICHEL feat. ODB & MYA	INTERSCOPE
7 TRULY MADLY DEEPLY	SAVAGE GARDEN	COLUMBIA
8 VIVA FOREVER	SPICE GIRLS	VIRGIN
9 3 LIONS '98	BADDIE/SKINNER/LIGHTNING SEED	EPIC
10 DOCTOR JONES	AQUA	UNIVERSAL
11 MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	STARDUST	VIRGIN
12 NEVER EVER	ALL SAINTS	LONDON
13 THE BOY IS MINE	BRANDY & MONICA	ATLANTIC
14 FEEL IT	TAMPERER feat. MAYA	PEPPER
15 BRIMFUL OF ASHA	CORNERSHOP	WIIJJA
16 FROZEN	MADONNA	MAVERICK
17 HORNY	MOUSSE T VS HOT'N JUICY	AM-PM
18 VINDALOO	FAT LES	TELSTAR
19 ANGELS	ROBBIE WILLIAMS	CHRYSALIS
20 ROLLERCOASTER	B*WITCHED	GLOW WORM/EPIC

© CIN

## PEPSI Chart

Rank	Title	Artist	Label	Rank	Title	Artist	Label
1	BELIEVE	Cher	WEA	21	WHAT'S YOUR SIGN	Des'ree	Dusted Sound
2	OUTSIDE	George Michael	Epic	22	GYM AND TONIC	Spacedust	East West Dance
3	WOULD YOU...?	Touch & Go	Oval	23	IF YOU TOLERATE THIS YOUR CHILDREN WILL BE NEXT	More	Des'ree/Epics
4	SWEETEST THING	U2	Island	24	ROLLERCOASTER	B*Witched	Glow Worm/Epics
5	GUESS I WAS A FOOL	Another Level	Northwestside	25	GANGSTER TRIPPIN'	Fatboy Slim	Skint
6	BLUE ANGELS	Pras	Ruffhouse	26	NO MATTER WHAT	Boyzone	Really Useful
7	I JUST WANNA BE LOVED	Culture Club	Virgin	27	LOOKING FOR LOVE	Karen Ramirez	Manisfest
8	I DON'T WANT TO MISS A THING	Aerosmith	Columbia	28	DAYSLEEPER	REM	Warner Bros
9	THANK U	Alans Morrisette	Maverick	29	MY FAVOURITE GAME	The Cardigans	Stockholm
10	GIRLFRIEND	Billie	Innocent	30	EACH TIME	E 17	Telstar
11	PERFECT 10	The Beautiful South	Go! Discs	31	COME BACK DARLING	UB40	DEF International
12	MILLENNIUM	Robbie Williams	Chrysalis	32	BODY MOVIN'	Beastie Boys	Capitol
13	LITTLE BIT OF LOVIN'	Kele Le Roc	1st Avenue/Wildcard	33	SHE'S GONE	Matthew Marsden	Columbia
14	TO THE MOON AND BACK	Savage Garden	Columbia	34	RELAX	Deezah	Ifi
15	WHAT CAN I DO	The Corrs	Atlantic	35	TRUE COLORS	Phil Collins	Virgin
16	MUSIC SOUNDS BETTER WITH YOU	Stardust	Virgin	36	TELL ME MA	Sham Rock	Jive
17	CRUSH	Jennifer Paige	Edel	37	SMOKE	Natalie Imbruglia	RCA
18	TESTIFY	M People	M People	38	SAVE TONIGHT	Eagle Eye Cherry	Polydo
19	MORE THAN A WOMAN	911	Virgin	39	QUESTION OF FAITH	Lighthouse Family	Wild Card
20	ALL 'BOUT THE MONEY	Meja	Columbia	40	TOP OF THE WORLD	Brandy Feat. Mase	Atlantic

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To hear the chart hot-off-the-press on Monday morning, call 0891 505290. Calls cost 50p/min

new single

out 16/11/98

12"•CD1•CD2

www.skint.net

taken from the LP

HOW TO OPERATE WITH A BLOWN MIND

7th Dec Brighton

8th Dec Shepherds Bush

14th Dec Sheffield

15th Dec Preston

16th Dec Newcastle

17th Dec Aberdeen

18th Dec Glasgow

Event

Empire

University

University

University

Arches

# THE OFFICIAL UK ALBUM CHART

## TOP 75

7 NOVEMBER 1998

This Week	Last Week	Title	Artist (Producer)	Label/CD (Distributor)	Cass/Vinyl
1	NEW	I'VE BEEN EXPECTING YOU	Robbie Williams (Chambers/Power)	Chrysalis 4978372 (E)	4978374/-
2	NEW	UP	REM (McCarthy/REM)	Warner Brothers 9362471512 (W)	9362471124/9362471121
3	1	QUENCH	The Beautiful South (Kelly/Heaton)	Go!Discs/Mercury 5381792 (F)	5381664/5381661
4	3	HITS	Phil Collins (Various)	Virgin CDV 2870 (E)	TCV 2870/-
5	2	YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY, BABY	Fatboy Slim (Fatboy Slim)	Skint BRASSIC 11CD (3MV/P)	BRASSIC 11MC/BRASSIC 11LP
6	5	THE BEST OF - THE STAR AND WISEMAN	LadySmith Black Mambazo (Shabalala/Skarbek/Abrahams)	PolyGram TV 5652982 (F)	5652984/-
7	4	SONGS FROM 'ALLY MCBEAL'	Vonda Shepard (Shepard)	Epic 4911242 (SM)	4911244/-
8	NEW	BELIEVE	Cher (Vasquez/Terry/Metro)	WEA 3984253192 (W)	3984253194/-
9	7	B*WITCHED	B*Witched (Hedges)	Epic 4917042 (SM)	4917044/-
10	6	SULTANS OF SWING - THE VERY BEST OF	Dire Straits (Knopfler/Various)	Vertigo 5586582 (F)	5586584/-
11	8	TALK ON CORNERS	The Corrs (Lieber/Foster/Corr/Pearson/Knowles/Steinberg/Ballard)	Atlantic 7567831062/7567831064/-	(W)
12	12	WHERE WE BELONG	2 Polyrad 5592002/5592004/-	(F)	Boyzone (Lipsorn/Surken/Rogers/Mac/Hedges/Magnusson/Kreuger/Absolute)
13	NEW	THE MOVIES	Michael Ball (I)	PolyGram TV 5592412 (F)	5592414/-
14	16	HONEY TO THE B	Billie (Marr/Page)	Innocent CD/SIN 1 (E)	SINMC 1/-
15	NEW	ONE WAY OF LIFE - BEST OF	Levellers (Scott/Kelly/Various)	China/Jive 0521152 (P)	0521734/-
16	13	SAVAGE GARDEN	Savage Garden (Fisher)	Columbia 4871612 (SM)	4871614/-
17	22	STEP ONE	Steps (Topham/Twigg/Waterman/Frampton/Sanders/Work In Progress)	Jive/Ebul 0519112/0519114/-	(P)
18	NEW	MY LIFE: THE GREATEST HITS	Julio Iglesias (Hammund/Arcausa)	Columbia COL 4910902 (SM)	COL 4910904/-
19	14	THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS	Manic Street Preachers (Hedges/Eringa)	Epic 4917039 (SM)	4917034/4917031
20	15	LIFE THRU A LENS	Robbie Williams (Chambers/Power)	Chrysalis CDCR 6127 (E)	TCCHR 6127/-
21	21	TITANIC (OST)	James Horner (Horner/Franglen)	Sony Classical SK 63213 (SM)	ST 63213/-
22	9	LOVE SONGS	Daniel O'Donnell (Ryan)	Ritz RBZCD 715 (RMG/F)	RZCD 715/-
23	17	BACK TO TITANIC	James Horner (Horner/Gerston/Altman/Hazler/Atanasieff)	Sony Classical SK 60691 (SM)	ST 60691/-
24	18	LEFT OF THE MIDDLE	Natalie Imbruglia (Thornalley/Goldberg/Wright/Bronleewe)	RCA 74321571382 (BMG)	74321571384/-
25	11	ON A DAY LIKE TODAY	Bryan Adams (Adams/Thornalley/Rock)	A&M/Mercury 5410162 (F)	5410164/-

26	10	REAL AS I WANNA BE	Cliff Richard (Wolf)	EMI 4979512 (E)	4974064/-
27	24	VERSION 2.0	Garbage (Garbage)	Mushroom MUSH 29CD (3MV/P)	MUSH 29MC/MUSH 29LP
28	23	THE MISEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL	Lauryl Hill (I)	Columbia 4898432 (SM)	4898434/4898431
29	25	POSTCARDS FROM HEAVEN	Wild Card/Polydor (F)	5395162/5395164/-	(E)
30	20	LABOUR OF LOVE III	DEP International DEPCD 18 (E)	5395162/5395164/-	CADEF 18/-
31	32	INTERNATIONAL VELVET	Blanco Y Negro 3984208342 (W)	3984208344/3984208341	(W)
32	28	100% COLOMBIAN	Fun Lovin' Criminals (Fun Lovin' Criminals)	Chrysalis 4974630 (F)	4970564/4970561
33	19	WITHOUT YOU I'M NOTHING	Placebo (Osbourne)	Hut/Virgin CDFLOOR 8 (E)	FLOORMC 8/FLOORLP 8
34	42	LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE	Celine Dion (Martin/Foster/Wake/Atanasieff/Horner/Hart)	Epic 4891592 (SM)	4891594/-
35	30	URBAN HYMNS	The Verve (Youth/The Verve/Potter)	Hut/Virgin CDHUT 45 (E)	HUTMC 45/HUTLP 45
36	29	THE GLOBE SESSIONS	Sheryl Crow (Crow)	A&M/Polydor 5409742 (F)	5409744/-
37	27	GRAN TURISMO	The Cardigans (Johansson)	Stockholm 5590812 (F)	5590814/-
38	NEW	LIVE AT THE ROYAL ALBERT HALL	Spiritualized (Spaceman)	Deconstruction 74321622852 (BMG)	-/74321622851
39	34	NEVER S-A-Y NEVER	Brandy (Brandy/Kallman/Davis/Jenkins/Foster)	Atlantic 7567830392 (W)	7567830394/7567830391
40	26	THE SINGLES 86>98	Depeche Mode (Flood/Depeche Mode/Simonon/Boscombe)	Mute CDMUTEL 5 (V)	CMUTEL 5/MUTEL 5
41	NEW	THE VERY BEST OF	Level 42 (Various)	Polydor 5593732 (F)	5593734/-
42	NEW	ENTER THE DRU	Dru Hill (Hicks/Dru Hill/Peck/Crear/Islam)	Island 5245422 (F)	-/-
43	37	ALL SAINTS	All Saints (Various)	London 5560172 (F)	5560174/-
44	45	FIVE	Five (Various)	RCA 74321589762/74321589764/-	(BMG)
45	38	ONE NIGHT ONLY	Bee Gees (Bee Gees)	Polydor 5592202 (F)	5592204/-
46	35	40 GOLDEN MOTOWN GREATS	Diana Ross & The Supremes/Diana Ross/The Supremes (Various)	Motown/PolyGram TV 5309612 (F)	5309614/-
47	NEW	VERY BEST OF BEN E KING & THE DRIFTERS	Ben E King And The Drifters (I)	warner.esp/Global TV RADCD 108 (BMG)	RADMC 108/-
48	49	DESIRELESS	Eagle-Eye Cherry (Kviman/Eagle-Eye Cherry/Ahlund)	Polydor 5372262 (F)	5372264/-
49	39	BEST OF	En Vogue (McElroy/Foster/Crawford/Babyface)	East West 7559623222 (W)	7559623224/-
50	38	TRAMPOLINE	The Mavericks (Malo/Cook)	MCA Nashville UMD 80456 (BMG)	UMC 80456/-
51	NEW	LOVE STORIES	Abba (Anderson/Ulvaeus/Andersson)	Polydor 5592212 (F)	5592214/-

52	40	NU-CLEAR SOUNDS	Ash (Ash/Kimsey/Morris)	Infectious INFECT 60CD (V)	INFECT 60MC/INFECT 60LP
53	NEW	HOPE IS IMPORTANT	Idlewild (Tipler)	Parlophone FOODCD 28 (E)	FOODTC 28/FOOD 28
54	43	BRING IT ON	Gomez (Gomez)	Hut/Virgin CDHUTX 49 (E)	HUTMC 49/HUTDLP 49
55	46	TRIED & TRUE THE BEST OF	Suzanne Vega (Various)	Polydor 5409452 (F)	5409454/-
56	52	RAY OF LIGHT	Madonna (Madonna/Orbit/De Vries/Leonard)	Maverick 9362468472 (W)	9362468474/9362468471
57	RE	THE SINGLES 81>85	Depeche Mode (Miller/Depeche Mode/Jones)	Mute LCDMUTEL 1 (V)	LCMUTEL 1/LMUTEL 1
58	44	THE BEST OF - HATFUL OF RAIN	Del Amitri (Various)	A&M/Mercury 5409442 (F)	5409444/-
59	57	FORGIVEN, NOT FORGOTTEN	The Corrs (Foster/Corr)	Atlantic 756782612 (W)	7567826124/-
60	60	THE BEST OF	James (Eno/Hague/James)	Fontana 5581732 (F)	5588984/-
61	50	LIFE GOES ON	Sash! (Sash!/Tokapi)	Multiply MULTYCD 2 (W)	MULTYMC 2/-
62	36	A LITTLE SOUTH OF SANITY	Aerosmith (Messina)	Geffen GED 25221 (BMG)	-/-
63	66	HELLO NASTY	Grand Royal/Parlophone 4957232 (E)	4957234/4957231	(W)
64	55	JANE MCDONALD	Jane McDonald (The Music Sculptors/Jarratt/Reedman/Smith)	Focus Music Int FMCD 1 (V)	FMCD 1/-
65	48	BLUE	Simply Red (Wright/Yashiki/Hucknall)	East West 3984230972 (W)	3984230974/3984230971
66	56	MEZZANINE	Massive Attack (Massive Attack/Davidge)	Circa/Virgin WBRCR 4 (E)	WBRCM 4/WBRLP 4
67	31	WELCOME TO THE BEAUTIFUL SOUTH	The Beautiful South (Hedges)	Go!Discs/Mercury (F)	FGCD 16/ZGOLP 16/FGOLP 16
68	NEW	THE BEST OF	Dusty Springfield (I)	Mercury/PolyGram TV 5383452 (F)	5383454/-
69	NEW	KEEP THE FAITH	Faith Evans (I)	Arista 74321614572 (BMG)	74321614574/-
70	68	THE BOY IS MINE	Monica (Jenkins/Austin/Dupin/Foster/Braithwaite/Simmonds)	Arista 07822190112 (BMG)	07822190114/-
71	71	EVERYTHING MUST GO	Manic Street Preachers (Hedges/Hague/Eringa)	Epic 4839302 (SM)	4839304/4839301
72	59	THE GOOD WILL OUT	Embrace (Crefield/Embrace/Youth/Osbourne)	Hut/Virgin CDHUT 46 (E)	HUTMC 46/HUTDLP 46
73	RE	OCEAN DRIVE	Lighthouse Family (Peden)	Wild Card/Polydor 5237872 (F)	5237874/-
74	RE	GOLD - GREATEST HITS	Abba (Anderson/Ulvaeus/Andersson)	Polydor 5170072 (F)	5170074/5170071
75	35	BIG WILLIE STYLE	Will Smith (Puff Daddy/Trackmasters/Warren G/Dupris/Jazzy Jeff/Various)	Columbia 4886622/4886624/4886621 (SM)	-/-

PLATINUM \* (300,000) GOLD \* (100,000) SILVER (60,000) BPI awards are made on combined unit sales of cassettes, CDs, LPs, Minidisc and DCC. LPs and cassettes with a published dealer price of £3.49 and below and CDs of £5.99 or below require twice the sales quantity quoted above to obtain an award.  
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HNE Highest new entry HC Highest climber Sales increase Sales increase 50% or more

## TOP COMPILATIONS

This Week	Last Week	Title	Artist	Label/CD (Distributor)	Cass/Vinyl
1	NEW	HUGE HITS 1998	warner.esp/Global TV/Sony TV MOODCD 62/MOODC 62/-	(SM)	
2	1	THE BEST CHART HITS ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER!	Virgin/EMI VTDCD 225/VTDCM 225/-	(E)	
3	NEW	NOW DANCE 98	Virgin/EMI CDNON 18/TCNON 18/-	(E)	
4	NEW	THE ALL TIME GREATEST MOVIE SONGS	Sony TV/PolyGram TV MOODCD 61/MOODC 61/-	(SM)	
5	3	SONGS FROM WHISTLE DOWN THE WIND	Really Useful/Polydor 5594412/5594414/-	(F)	
6	4	THE FEMALE TOUCH	warner.esp/Global TV RADCD 107/RADMC 107/-	(BMG)	
7	2	IN THE MIX IBIZA	Virgin/EMI VTDCD 228/VTDCM 228/-	(E)	
8	NEW	CLUB NATION	Virgin/EMI VTDCDX 227/VTDCM 227/-	(E)	
9	NEW	THE BEST OF DANCE 98	Telstar TV TTVCDD 3001/TTVMCC 3001/-	(W)	

10	NEW	SOUL	PolyGram TV 5654332/5654334/-	(F)	
11	7	GATECRASHER	INCcredible INC 2CDX/INC 2MC/-	(SM)	
12	NEW	BONKERS 5 - ANARCHY IN THE UNIVERSE	React REACTCD 141/REACTMC 141/-	(V)	
13	NEW	ULTIMATE CLUB MIX - 98	PolyGram TV 5592782/5592784/-	(F)	
14	6	BIG HITS 98	warner.esp/Global TV/Sony TV MOODCD 60/MOODC 60/-	(SM)	
15	8	NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 40	EMI/Virgin/PolyGram CDNOW 40/TCNOW 40/-	(E)	
16	NEW	MOST RELAXING CLASSICAL ALBUM...EVER! II	Virgin/EMI VTDCD 207/VTDCM 207/-	(E)	
17	5	BOX HITS 98 - VOLUME 3	Telstar TV TTVCDD 2988/TTVMCC 2988/-	(W)	
18	14	SIMPLY THE BEST CLASSICAL ANTHEMS	warner.esp 3984255442/3984255444/-	(W)	
19	13	LOCK, STOCK & TWO SMOKING BARRELS (OST)	Island CID 8077/-	(F)	
20	9	DIVAS LIVE	Epic SONYTV 55CD/SONYTV 55MC/-	(SM)	

## ARTISTS A-Z

ABBA	5174	IDLEWILD	53
ADAMS, Bryan	25	IGLESIAS, Julio	18
AEROSMITH	62	IMBRUGLIA, Natalie	24
ALL SAINTS	43	JAMES	60
ASH	52	KING, Ben E. And The DRIFTERS	47
B*WITCHED	9	LADYSMITH BLACK MAMBAZO	6
BALL, Michael	13	LEVEL 42	41
BEASTIE BOYS	63	LEVILLERS	15
BEAUTIFUL SOUTH, The	3.67	LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY	28.73
BEE GEES	45	MADONNA	56
BILLIE	14	MANIC STREET PREACHERS	18.71
BOYZONE	12	MASSIVE ATTACK	66
BRANHY	39	MAVERICKS, The	70
CARDIGANS, The	37	MCDONALD, Jane	64
CATATONIA	31	MCDONALD, Daniel	22
CHER	8	PLACEBO	3
CHERRY, Eagle-Eye	48	REM	32
COLLINS, Phil	4	RICHARD, CH	26
CORRS, The	11.59	ROSS, Diana & The SUPREMES/Diana ROSS/The SUPREMES	46
CROW, Sheryl	36	SASH!	61
DEI AMITRI	58	SAVAGE GARDEN	15
DEPECHE MODE	40.57	SHEPARD, Nona	7
DION, Celine	34	SIMPLY RED	65
DIRE STRAITS	10	SMITH, VUI	75
DRU HILL	42	SPIRITUALIZED	38
EMBRACE	72	SPRINGFIELD, Dusty	17
EN VOIGUE	49	STEPS	68
EVANS, Faith	69	VEGA, Suzanne	55
FATBOY SLIM	5	VERVE, The	35
FIVE	40	WILLIAMS, Robbie	120
FUN LOVIN' CRIMINALS	32		
GARBAGE	27		
GOMEZ	54		
HILL, Lauryn	28		
HORNER, James	21.23		

CHART  
COMMENTARY

by ALAN JONES



With sales of nearly 132,000 last week, I've Been Expecting You gives Robbie Williams his second number one of the year. Robbie's debut solo album Life Thru A Lens got off to a rather more shaky start, entering at number 11 just over 12 months ago, with first week sales of 14,500. It slumped to number 29 the following week, with sales of less than 5,000, and subsequently disappeared from the chart altogether

## ALBUM FACTFILE

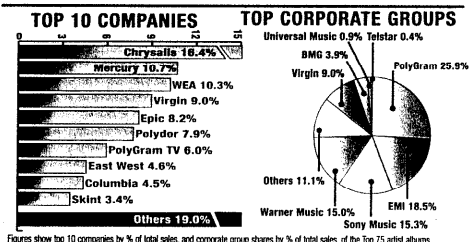
for five weeks, only returning just before Christmas. But, as Angels revealed itself the album went from strength to strength, and reached number one 28 weeks after release, with sales peaking at 43,000 as it reached the summit on April 18 this year. It went on to spend 40 consecutive weeks in the Top 10 – a sequence which was the best since the Spice Girls' debut album Spice and end only three weeks ago.

**R**EM had four number one albums in a row before Up, selling over 125,000 copies of their last album – New Adventures in Hi-Fi – on the week of its release in 1996. Despite getting much more positive reviews than its predecessor, Up has to be content with a number two debut, having sold fewer than 58,000 copies last week, compared to nearly 132,000 sales for Robbie Williams' I've Been Expecting You. William's not just number one for the week – he's number one for the year, with sales of his two solo albums this year now eclipsing sales of albums by The Verve, who have led the year-to-date rankings throughout 1998.

Williams and The Verve must beware of Celine Dion, however. With two albums currently in the chart, she is about to get another major boost from the release of her Christmas album, These Are Special Times, which includes her duet with R. Kelly as well as a truckload of seasonal fare. Dion has already sold a million albums this year, while

## MARKET REPORT

## AT A GLANCE WEEKLY MARKET SHARES



## SALES UPDATE

VERSUS LAST WEEK:

+20.9%

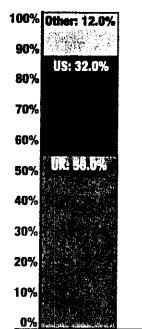
YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR:

+7.6%

Williams' is approaching 1.2m. The release of Williams' album gave a major boost to album sales last week. The last week in

October normally sees sales increase a little, prior to the massive Christmas boom, but the arrival of albums by Williams, REM,

## PERCENTAGE OF UK ACTS IN THE CHART



Cher and other big names boosted sales to their third highest level of the year last week, with the tally of 2,373,000 being lower only than the first week of the year and Easter week.

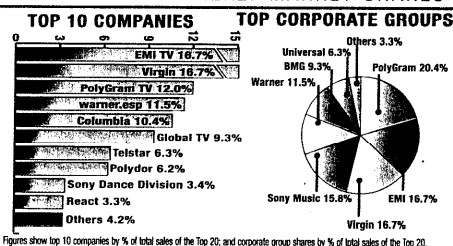
When the surprise hit of the year, The Corrs' Talk On Corners album, topped the chart for the first time in July it did so with 23,996 sales, rising to the top in the middle of the summer sales slump. Last week it sold 135 copies more – but slides from eight to eleven, bringing to an end its proud record of appearing in the Top 10 for 24 consecutive weeks. Its absence will surely be only temporary however – airplay is already beginning to build on their new single So Young, and a special edition of Talk On Corners is released a week on Monday. Talk On Corners has sold 950,000 copies since it was released in October of last year, and is certain to reach quadruple and quintuple platinum before the end of the year.

## COMPILATIONS

It's never easy but the compilation market seems tougher than ever at the moment. Competition is particularly fierce, with eight new entries among the 13 biggest sellers this week, but the sector as a whole seems to be suffering from too many albums duplicating the same tracks, and has a share of only 22.6% this week, a couple of percentage points down on the level it had a year ago. With a massive choice available to consumers, only the very best brands are selling in really big quantities. On a combined album chart this week, only two compilations would appear in the Top 10, with **Huge Hits 1998** – the latest Warner/BMG/Sony album in the series which offers the best competition to the **Now** series – at number four and **The Chart Hits In The World...Ever!** at

number 10. **Huge Hits 1998** sold over 40,000 copies to debut at number one on the compilation chart, and is one of the early contenders in the race to provide an overview of the year's biggest hits. It does, of course, include those perennials It's Like That by Run-DMC Vs. Jason Nevins and Brimful Of Asha by Cornershop, and 39 other Top 10 entries.

Making a more modest first week impression, the Bee Gees tribute album **Gotta Get A Message To You** ranks 26th for the week, after selling 3,000 copies. As well as the 911 and Steps singles, it features Ultra Nate's take on How Deep is Your Love, Cleopatra's version of Gotta Get A Message To You, Massachusetts by Space and Dana International's reading of Woman In Love, amongst others.

MARKET REPORT  
AT A GLANCE WEEKLY MARKET SHARES

## SALES UPDATE

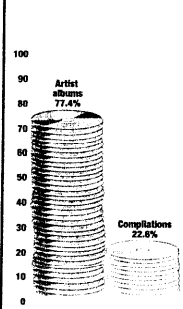
VERSUS LAST WEEK:

+33.0%

YEAR TO DATE VERSUS LAST YEAR:

+5.1%

## COMPILATIONS AS PERCENTAGE OF SALES



## THE YEAR SO FAR...

## TOP 20 ALBUMS

- |    |                                |                        |                |
|----|--------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|
| 1  | LIFE THRU A LENS               | ROBBIE WILLIAMS        | CHRYSLIS       |
| 2  | URBAN HYMNS                    | THE VERVE              | HUT            |
| 3  | TALK ON CORNERS                | CORRS                  | ATLANTIC       |
| 4  | LET'S TALK ABOUT LOVE          | CELINE DION            | EPIC           |
| 5  | TITANIC - OST                  | JAMES HORNER           | SONY CLASSICAL |
| 6  | ALL SAINTS                     | ALL SAINTS             | LONDON         |
| 7  | RAY OF LIGHT                   | MADONNA                | MAVERICK       |
| 8  | POSTCARDS FROM HEAVEN          | LIGHTHOUSE FAMILY      | WILD CARD      |
| 9  | WHERE WE BELONG                | BOYZONE                | POLYDOR        |
| 10 | INTERNATIONAL VELVET           | CATATONIA              | BLANCO Y NEGRO |
| 11 | LEFT OF THE MIDDLE             | NATALIE IMBRUGLIA      | RCA            |
| 12 | BLUE                           | SIMPLY RED             | EAST WEST      |
| 13 | SAVAGE GARDEN                  | SAVAGE GARDEN          | COLUMBIA       |
| 14 | SPICEWORLD                     | SPICE GIRLS            | VIRGIN         |
| 15 | WHITE ON BLONDE                | TEXAS                  | MERCURY        |
| 16 | THE BEST OF                    | JAMES                  | FONTANA        |
| 17 | AQUARIUM                       | AQUA                   | UNIVERSAL      |
| 18 | MAVERICK A STRIKE              | FINLEY QUAYE           | EPIC           |
| 19 | THIS IS MY TRUTH TELL ME YOURS | MANIC STREET PREACHERS | EPIC           |
| 20 | OK COMPUTER                    | RADIOHEAD              | PARLOPHONE     |

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## THE YEAR SO FAR...

## TOP 20 COMPILATIONS

- |    |   |                     |                      |
|----|---|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1  | NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 39        | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM  |
| 2  | NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 40        | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM  |
| 3  | FRESH HITS 98                           | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | WARNER/GLOBAL/SONYTV |
| 4  | THE FULL MONTY                          | ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK | RCA VICTOR           |
| 5  | NEW HITS 98                             | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | WARNER/GLOBAL/SONYTV |
| 6  | BIG HITS 98                             | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | WARNER/GLOBAL/SONYTV |
| 7  | THE IBIZA ANNUAL                        | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | MINISTRY OF SOUND    |
| 8  | GREASE                                  | ORIGINAL SOUNDTRACK | POLYDOR              |
| 9  | NOW THAT'S WHAT I CALL MUSIC! 38        | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | EMI/VIRGIN/POLYGRAM  |
| 10 | FANTASTIC 80'S I                        | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | COLUMBIA             |
| 11 | CLUBBER'S GUIDE TO...IBIZA - JULES/TONG | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | MINISTRY OF SOUND    |
| 12 | PETE TONG/BOY GEORGE - DANCE NATION 5   | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | MINISTRY OF SOUND    |
| 13 | DIANA PRINCESS OF WALES - TRIBUTE       | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | DIANA MEMORIAL FUND  |
| 14 | THE BEST...ANTHEMS...EVER! 2            | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | VIRGIN/EMI           |
| 15 | MIXED EMOTIONS II                       | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | POLYGRAM TV          |
| 16 | THE BEST SIXTIES SUMMER...EVER!         | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | VIRGIN/EMI           |
| 17 | BEST DANCE ALBUM IN THE WORLD...EVER! 8 | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | VIRGIN/EMI           |
| 18 | KISS IN IBIZA 98                        | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | POLYGRAM TV          |
| 19 | IN THE MIX 98                           | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | VIRGIN/EMI           |
| 20 | TOP OF THE POPS 1998 - VOLUME 1         | VARIOUS ARTISTS     | POLYGRAM TV          |

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To hear the charts hot-off-the-press on Monday morning, call 0891 505291 (artist albums)/0891 505289 (compilations). Calls cost 50p min.