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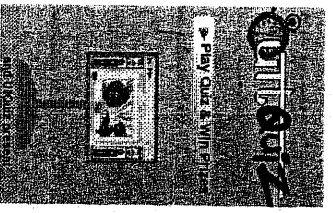
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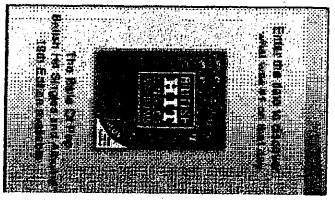
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TOP 100 ALBUMS CHART :: CHART WEEK ENDING DATE 22/12/07

HOME	ALBUM CHART HISTORY	STATS & FACTS	TRIVIA	COMPANY INFO	GENERAL INFO	CHART RULES	FAQS	INFO PACK	CONTACT	LINKS
1	1	LEONA LEWIS	SPRIT	BACK HOME	CALL ME IRRESPONSIBLE - SPECIAL EDITION	MOTHERSHIP	LONG ROAD OUT OF EDEN	EVERE - THE BEST OF BREATHLESS	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	BACK TO BLACK
2	2	WESTLIFE	BACK HOME	CALL ME IRRESPONSIBLE - SPECIAL EDITION	MOTHERSHIP	LONG ROAD OUT OF EDEN	EVERE - THE BEST OF BREATHLESS	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	BACK TO BLACK	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION
3	21	MICHAEL BUBLE	CALL ME IRRESPONSIBLE - SPECIAL EDITION	MOTHERSHIP	LONG ROAD OUT OF EDEN	EVERE - THE BEST OF BREATHLESS	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	BACK TO BLACK	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION
4	8	LED ZEPPELIN	MOTHERSHIP	LONG ROAD OUT OF EDEN	EVERE - THE BEST OF BREATHLESS	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	BACK TO BLACK	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION	REJOICE
5	4	EAGLES	LONG ROAD OUT OF EDEN	EVERE - THE BEST OF BREATHLESS	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	BACK TO BLACK	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION	REJOICE	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS
6	6	ANDREA BOCELLI	EVERE - THE BEST OF BREATHLESS	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	BACK TO BLACK	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION	REJOICE	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS
7	3	SHAYNE WARD	BEAUTIFUL WORLD	BACK TO BLACK	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION	REJOICE	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS
8	10	TAKE THAT	BACK TO BLACK	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION	REJOICE	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA
9	5	AMY WINEHOUSE	THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION	REJOICE	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT
10	7	WHITNEY HOUSTON	LIFE IN CARTOON MOTION	REJOICE	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR
11	19	MIKA	REJOICE	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE
12	11	KATHERINE JENNIS	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS
13	16	ROYAL SCOTS DRAGON GUARDS	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS
14	18	HOOSIERS	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS
15	17	BEAUTIFUL SOUTH / HOUSEMARTINS	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES
16	12	CASCADA	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud
17	14	JAMES BLUNT	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE
18	15	FRON MALE VOICE CHOIR	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON
19	5	KYILE MINOQUE	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION
20	36	PAUL POTTIS	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND
21	28	FOO FIGHTERS	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON
22	13	SPICE GIRLS	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA
23	26	SUGABABES	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER
24	20	GIRLS ALoud	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS
25	32	AMY WINEHOUSE	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS	
26	24	RUSSELL WATSON	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS		
27	25	CELINE DION	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS			
28	27	TIMBALAND	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS				
29	23	ERIC CLAPTON	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS					
30	31	KATIE MELUA	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS						
31	38	NEWTON FALKNER	HAND BUILT BY ROBOTS							



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WEB DESIGN AGENCY: DESIGNARS

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72	121	JONA LEWIS	STOP THE CAVALRY
73	...	JACK PENNATE	HAVE I BEEN A FOOL
74	86	HOOSIERS	WORRIED ABOUT RAY
75	21	ENEMY	WELL LIVE AND DIE IN THESE TOWNS
76	106	MAT KING COLE	THE CHRISTMAS SONG
77	47	SHAYNE WARD	NO U HANG UP / IF THAT'S OK WITH YOU
78	74	FEIST	1234
79	45	DIZEE RASCAL	FLEX
80	65	AMY WINEHOUSE	BACK TO BLACK
81	132	MICHAEL BUBLE	EVERYTHING
82	86	CLIFF RICHARD	MISTLETOE AND WINE
83	120	BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN	SANTA CLAUS IS COMIN' TO TOWN
84	56	KAYE WEST FT. PAIN	GOOD LIFE
85	128	EARTH KITT	SANTA BABY
86	80	ALED JONES	WALKING IN THE AIR
87	84	RIHANNA	SHUT UP AND DRIVE
88	186	LED ZEPPELIN	KASHMIR
89	138	PLAIN WHITE T'S	KATE / REALLY DONT LIKE YOU
90	57	JAMES BLUNT	SAME MISTAKE
91	188	LED ZEPPELIN	WHOLE LOTTA LOVE
92	100	DEAN MARTIN	LET IT SNOW/LET IT SNOW/LET IT SNOW
93	101	KYILE MINOQUE	SANTA BABY
94	...	SPACE PIRATES	SPACE PIRATES THEME
95	55	SPICE GIRLS	HEADLINES (FRIENDSHIP NEVER ENDS)
96	78	AMY WINEHOUSE	VALENTINE
97	137	BING CROSBY & DAVID BOWIE	PEACE ON EARTH / LITTLE DRUMMER BOY
98	73	JAMES BLUNT	1973
99	85	SNOW PATROL	CHASING CARS
100	87	TOM BAXTER	BETTER

32	33	BOYZ II MEN	MOTOWN HITSVILLE USA
33	38	CLIFF RICHARD	LOVE - THE ALBUM
34	28	RHIANNA	GOOD GIRL GONE BAD
35	43	ROBERT PLANT & ALISON KRAUSS	RAISING SAND
36	35	PHIL COLLINS	HITS
37	22	MCFLY	GREATEST HITS
38	37	VAN MORRISON	STILL ON TOP - THE GREATEST HITS
39	44	AMY MACDONALD	THIS IS THE LIFE
40	40	DAVID GRAY	GREATEST HITS
41	41	ALICA KEYS	AS I AM
42	34	KILLERS	SAWDUST
43	62	TEATRO	TEATRO
44	38	CONNIE TALBOT	OVER THE RAINBOW
45	48	ROLLING STONES	ROLLED GOLD - THE VERY BEST OF
46	48	AMY WINEHOUSE	FRANK
47	45	MARK RONSON	VERSION
48	42	LEE MEAD	LEE MEAD
49	49	SIMON & GARFUNKEL	THE COLLECTION
50	50	KT TUNSTALL	DRASTIC FANTASTIC
51	58	SCOUTING FOR GIRLS	SCOUTING FOR GIRLS
52	53	KATE NASH	MADE OF BRICKS
53	47	JOHN BARROWMAN	ANOTHER SIDE
54	54	STYLUSTICS	VERY BEST OF
55	58	DANIEL O'DONNELL & MARY DUFF	TOGETHER AGAIN
56	68	BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN	MAGIC
57	55	TRAVELING WILBURYS	COLLECTION
58	59	FOSTER & ALLEN	SONGS OF LOVE AND LAUGHTER
59	77	ENRIQUE IGLESIAS	INCONNAMIC
60	60	OASIS	STOP THE CLOCKS
61	88	TAKE THAT	NEVER FORGET - THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION
62	52	ALL ANGELS	INTO PARADISE
63	64	PIGCON DETECTIVES	WAIT FOR ME
64	68	ENEMY	WE'LL LIVE AND DIE IN THESE TOWNS
65	63	BLAKE	BLAKE
66	57	GENESIS	LIVE OVER EUROPE 2007
67	73	WESTLIFE	UNBREAKABLE - THE GREATEST HITS - VOL.1
68	65	CRAIG DAVID	TRUST ME
69	67	KAISER CHIEFS	YOURS TRULY ANGRY MOB
70	51	U2	THE JOSHUA TREE - THE DELUXE EDITION
71	84	ARCTIC MONKEYS	FAVOURITE WORST

72	71	KAYE WEST	GRADUATION
73	75	STEREOPHONICS	PULL THE PIN
74	72	AVRIL LAVIGNE	THE BEST DAMN THING
75	61	CHOIRBOYS	THE CAROLS ALBUM
76	87	EDITORS	AN END HAS A START
77	74	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE	FUTURESEX/LOVESOUNDS
78	81	BLOC PARTY	A WEEKEND IN THE CITY
79	70	MARCOON 5	IT WON'T BE SOON BEFORE LONG
80	86	SUGABABES	OVERLOADED - THE SINGLES COLLECTION
81	79	VERVE	THIS IS MUSIC - THE SINGLES 82-88
82	82	JOLIS HOLLAND	BEST OF FRIENDS
83	80	BRITNEY SPEARS	BLACKOUT
84	85	SNOW PATROL	EYES OPEN
85	73	REVEREND & THE MAKERS	THE STATE OF THINGS
86	116	JACK PENANTE	MANTINEE
87	104	PLAIN WHITE T'S	EVERY SECOND COUNTS
88	88	POGGES	THE VERY BEST OF
89	88	ABBA	GOLD - GREATEST HITS
90	101	PAOLO NUTINI	THESE STREETS
91	88	BOYZ II MEN	LEGACY - THE GREATEST HITS COLLECTION
92	113	KINGS OF LEON	BECAUSE OF THE TIMES
93	91	GARTH BROOKS	THE ULTIMATE HITS
94	103	RED HOT CHILLI PIPERS	BAGROCK TO THE MASSES
95	98	WOMBATS	A GUIDE TO LOVE LOSS & DESPERATION
96	107	JOSH GROGAN	NOEL
97	92	RUSSELL WATSON	THE VOICE - THE ULTIMATE COLLECTION
98	108	LINKN PARK	MINUTES TO MIDNIGHT
99	167	BON JOVI	LOST HIGHWAY
100	97	MY CHEMICAL ROMANCE	THE BLACK PARADE

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With little to look forward to other than a Christmas chart-topper from the one X Factor finalist that couldn't actually hold a tune properly, the chart this week ran the risk of being little more than an anticlimax. Instead we have something quite extraordinary and which was expected by absolutely nobody.

First a short lesson in consumer economics. A major factor in the astounding sales levels that music and CD singles in particular, were achieving around ten years ago was the presence of industry product on the shelves of major supermarkets. Having been persuaded that there was a ready market for them, the likes of Asda and Tesco were only too happy to devote shelf space to the latest music releases, and they were rewarded with healthy sales - buoyed of course by the presence at the time of kid-friendly acts such as the Spice Girls and Steps. The CD single was a mass-market, mainstream consumer product and arranged in such a way that it was an impulse buy, something cheap to grab hold of when it happened to catch your eye.

It is no coincidence that the near overnight drop-off in music sales happened to coincide with a change in policy by the big shopping chains who decided that the shelf space set aside for music would be more profitably deployed elsewhere, the CD single in particular something that was no longer worth stocking. Ever since the record industry has been falling around dealing with the demise of their biggest marketing tool as a mass market product and waiting for the digital download to somehow take its place.

So under normal circumstances the one-off release of a new **Katie Melua** single would not have been all that significant, despite the novelty of having her vocals expertly spliced with those of the late **Eva Cassidy** to create a dream duet that would otherwise never have been possible. However this was no ordinary single release. Instead the charity single (all proceeds to the Red Cross) was signed as an exclusive release through Tesco stores. Shops such as HMV and Zavvi and even iTunes and Napster were shut out of the loop completely. The only way to purchase 'What A Wonderful World' was to either go to your local Tesco (where it was arranged prominently in racks the moment you stepped through the door) or purchase it via the Tesco Direct website. What might ordinarily have been the kind of restriction that would have limited sales of the single instead became the most inspired marketing decision of the year, the track outselling the competition to become the most unexpected out of the blue Number One single for, well, decades.

Marketing aside the record is of course a chart triumph for both women. Prior to today Katie Melua's highest chart placing was the Number 5 peak of 'Nine Million Bicycles' from October 1995. Her last single 'If You Were A Sailboat' could only reach Number 23 and it would not have been unfair to regard her as an album artist. For Eva Cassidy it is an even greater triumph. A complete unknown when she died in 1996 at the tragically young age of 33, the singer with the heartbreakingly pure voice became a musical phenomenon in 2001 when thanks to Radio 2 airplay a collection of her recordings topped the UK charts. Until today she has never had a Top 40 single, her only chart entries being 'You Take My Breath Away' which made Number 54 in 2003 and most famously the track which brought her to popular attention, a version of 'Somewhere Over The Rainbow' which danced in and out of the singles chart during 2001, never climbing higher than Number 42.

The new version of 'What A Wonderful World' is masterfully produced, the new vocals from Katie Melua blended neatly with those of Eva Cassidy to create a record that is as spellbinding and compelling as the concept would suggest. It is the second version of the song to top the UK charts, **Louis Armstrong's** version hitting the top in 1968. By a strange coincidence the last version of the song to chart was that by **Cliff Richard** who released it in a medley with 'Somewhere Over The Rainbow', the single reaching Number 11 in December 2001.

Eva Cassidy is now the 13th act to have a posthumous Number One single, the first to be added to the list since **Notorious B.I.G.** hit the top in early 2006. No other singer has had a larger record between physical death and chart triumph, Cassidy having passed away on November 2nd 1996, a

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full 11 years and one month ago. **Elvis Presley** was last on top of the charts on February 5th 2005, almost 18 years after his death but he had previously had a posthumous Number One hit just weeks after he died.

All of this has of course blown the Christmas chart race wide open. Whilst of course it is still more or less a foregone conclusion that 'When You Believe' by Leon The Tuneless will be at Number One next week (the CD single hitting the shops from Wednesday) it is now anyone's guess as to what will occupy the runners up slot behind him. Whilst logic would suggest that Eva and Katie won't be able to sustain their sales in the face of other opposition, logic also suggested that restricting their record to just one chain of stores would not give them enough sales to top the chart, and look where that got us.

The big new sales winner of the week is **Souja Boy Tell'em** who leaps 10-3 with the long awaited physical release of 'Crank That (Souja Boy)'. Hard on his heels though is **Mariah Carey** whose 1994 single 'All I Want For Christmas Is You' consolidates its status as the nation's favourite seasonal track and rises 8-4, effectively in prime position to occupy the runners up slot it had exactly 13 years ago.

Meanwhile the march of the Christmas favourites continues. 'Fairytale Of New York' does indeed make it three years in a row in the Top 10 with a 12-8 rise. Last Christmas from **Wham!** is at Number 1, 'I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday' at Number 16, the highest the single has placed since its original 1973 release. **Andy Williams**' 'It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year' moves 25-21 following a physical release and he is swiftly followed by seasonal favourites from **Shade (23)**, **Shakin' Stevens (24)** and **Band Aid (27)**. At Number 35 **Chris Rea's** 'Driving Home For Christmas' becomes a Top 40 hit for the first time ever whilst Happy Xmas (War Is Over)' arrives at Number 40, its first chart appearance since 2003. I could go on, suffice it to say that you can pick pretty much any track at random from one of the 'Now That's The Best Number One Christmas Hits Collection Ever' albums and stand a good chance of finding it somewhere in the Top 75.

Of the more modern day recording stars, **Michael Buble** is one of the biggest winners of the week. His recent UK concerts, plus a high profile mentoring role on X Factor has sent sales of his recent single 'Lost' soaring. Released in late November, the track could only make Number 51 first time around and had dropped out of the Top 75, resting at Number 79 last week. Now it surges back up the rankings and re-enters the chart at Number 19 to give the crooner his biggest UK hit ever. Meanwhile his signature tune 'Home' also charges back onto the chart to rest at Number 45, its highest chart placing ever. **Weslie's** cover version is still hanging around of course, down at Number 17 this week.

New at Number 20 is a track that in early December was a potential contender for a Top 3 place at Christmas. 'Life's A Treat' is the theme tune to the animated children's series **Shaun The Sheep** and big things were expected of its single release. To be fair it wasn't such a long shot, given the way children's TV has produced December chart-toppers from the likes of **Bob The Builder** and the **Tales of the Rainforest** in the past. However this was of course in the days when pestle-power could inspire singles purchases in supermarkets and those days are long gone. Never mind the fact that **Lazy Town** had a Top 5 hit one year ago, Shaun The Sheep has been reduced to little more than a chart also-ran.

At the very least our feisty friend has performed better than some other physical releases this week. **Amy Macdonald** creeps to Number 28 with 'This Is The Life', the **Stereophonics** to a mere Number 32 with 'My Friends' whilst even unremitting tabloid coverage of her continuing meltdown fails to help **Amy Winehouse** to more than Number 46 with 'Love Is A Losing Game'. Meanwhile one new Year release is making waves already. **Rihanna's** next single 'Don't Stop The Music' doesn't reach the shops until February but makes its Top 40 debut this week at Number 37.

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