



The Amazon.co.uk music critics choice: Best of 2000 exclusive

December 4, 2000

- *40 leading writers select the year's most acclaimed releases across all musical genres*
- *Amazon.co.uk customers get their say too*

London: 4 December 2000: Radiohead, Eminem and Primal Scream have produced the years' most critically acclaimed albums, according to leading UK music critics. Writers from titles as diverse as The Guardian, GQ, Kerrang!, Gramophone and Uncut voted in the exclusive poll which cited Kid A, The Marshall Mathers LP and Xtrmntr as 2000's ultimate number one, two and three.

Artists and albums were selected for their musical merit rather than sales success by expert contributors to leading online retailer Amazon.co.uk's music store. Over one hundred albums released in 2000 and covering all musical genres have been nominated, including indie, rock, pop, classical, hip hop, dance, jazz and country. The results represent the highest pinnacles of musical achievement during the last twelve months.

Contemporary pop dominates the selections with Badly Drawn Boy, PJ Harvey and Madonna all making the 2000 top ten. But the vibrancy of the current UK music climate is reflected by the appearance of artists as diverse as Johnny Cash (9th on the list with American III), Simon Rattle (13th with Mahler's 10th Symphony) and eighties icons A Ha (29th with Minor Earth Major Sky).

"To be selected artists have been subject to the scrutiny of some of the most respected and informed commentators in the music business" said Paul Zimmerman, general manager of Amazon.co.uk's music store. "This means the results are particularly significant. The albums have been judged according to the contribution they make to music, not to the contribution they make at the till. From an artists' point of view such acknowledgement, from music writers and critics, must be one of the most satisfying accolades."

Critically acclaimed this selection may be, but The Beatles remain the ultimate number one choice for popular public consumption; released only three weeks ago, 1 is already top of the Amazon.co.uk 2000 bestsellers list. It has sold over two times as many as Play, by Moby, which came in at number two on the bestsellers list. Despite the fab four's Liverpool heritage, it's other parts of the country that are home to the most ardent Beatles fans. Amazon.co.uk's sales figures reveal that online shoppers from London, Birmingham, Guildford, Edinburgh and Belfast are snapping up 1 quicker than anywhere else.

Only two albums make both the top ten Critics Choice and the top ten Amazon.co.uk sales list. Radiohead may be number one with the writers, but customers bought enough copies for the band to scrape into the top ten best sellers in 10th position. And the Queen of Pop is keeping tight hold of her crown - Madonna's Music is at eight in both the critics and the consumers Best of 2000 selection.

Both complete lists follow, or go to Amazon.co.uk Music Best of 2000.

40 music critics took part in the Amazon.co.uk Critics Choice poll, representing titles including The Guardian, Gramophone, The Times, The Daily Telegraph, The Face, The Observer, The Independent, The Sunday Times, Time Out, The Evening Standard, NME, Q, Mojo, Uncut, Muzik, BBC Music, Jazz Journal, Melody Maker, Mixmag, Straight No Chaser, GQ, Cosmopolitan, Classical Music, Classic FM, Jazz Review, Jazzwise, Ministry, DJ, The Source, Kerrang!, International Record Review, Record Collector, The Singer, Opera Now and more.

Critics include: Andrew Achenbach, Simon Adams, Matt Anniss, Jake Barnes, David Bennun, Johnny Black, Phil Brett, Chris Campion, Michael Church, Colin Clarke, Antonia Couling, Gary S Dalkin, Matt Dean, Sarah Dempster, John Galilee, Dan Gennoe, Stephen Jelbert, Rick Jones, Maxine Kabuubi, Chris King, Martin Longley, Kevin Maidment, Gavin Martin, Andrew Mueller, Lucy O'Brien, Richard Palmer, Louis Pattison, Tim Perry, Chris Roberts, David Stubbs, Paul Sullivan, Paul Tierney, Mark Walker, Richard Whitehouse and Mary Anna Wright. Amazon.co.uk music store editors who took part include: Rebecca Agnew, Robert Burrow, Mark Gilbert, Helen Marquis and Randy Silver.

The Complete Amazon.co.uk Critics and Customers Top 100 of 2000

The Critics Choice

The Customers Choice

1. Radiohead - Kid A
1. 1 - The Beatles
2. Eminem - The Marshall Mathers LP
2. Play - Moby
3. Primal Scream - Xtrmntr
3. Sing When You're Winning - Robbie Williams
4. Jill Scott - Who is Jill Scott?

4. Parachutes - Coldplay
5. Badly Drawn Boy - Hour of Bewilderbeest
5. White Ladder - David Gray
6. Grandaddy - The Sophtware Slump
6. Supernatural - Carlos Santana
7. PJ Harvey - Stories from the City, from the Sea
7. All That You Can't Leave Behind - U2
8. Madonna - Music
8. Music - Madonna
9. Johnny Cash - American III
9. In Blue - Corrs
10. mum - Yesterday was dramatic today is ok
10. Kid A - Radiohead
11. Coldplay - Parachutes
11. The Man Who - Travis
12. Roni Size - In the Mode
12. Reload - Tom Jones
13. Simon Rattle - Mahler 10
13. On How Life Is - Macy Gray
14. Shivaree - I Oughta Give You A Shot In The Head
14. Marshall Mathers LP - Eminem
15. Perahia - Goldberg variations
15. Greatest Hits - Texas
16. Godspeed You Black Emperor - Levez Vos Fists
16. Standing on the Shoulders of Giants - Oasis
17. Lambchop - Nixon
17. Riding With the King - Clapton / King
18. Wyclef - The Eclectic (Two Sides to a Book)
18. Buena Vista Social Club - Ry Cooder
19. At the Drive In - Relationship of Commans
19. Onka's Big Moka - Toploader
20. Black Box Recorder - Facts of Life
20. Born to Do It - Craig David
21. XTC - Wasp Star
21. Ronan - Ronan Keating
22. Da Lata - From the Tin
22. Alone With Everybody - Richard Ashcroft
23. Kelis - Kaleidoscope
23. Rise - Gabrielle
24. Robbie Williams - Sing When You're Winning
24. Hour of Bewilderbeast - Badly Drawn Boy

25. Outkast - Stankonia

25. Crush - Bon Jovi

26. Blue States - Nothing Changes Under the Sun

26. Brand New Day - Sting

27. Kylie Minogue - Light Years

27. Best of Blur - Blur

28. Go-Betweens - The Friends of Rachel Worth

28. Saints and Sinners - All Saints

29. A Ha - Minor Earth Major Sky

29. Northern Star - Melanie C

30. Hefner - Residue

30. Come on Over - Shania Twain

31. Calxico - Hot Rail

31. Sailing to Philadelphia - Mark Knopfler

32. Guy Called Gerald - Essence

32. Whitney Houston - The Greatest Hits

33. Red Snapper - Our Aim is to Satisfy

33. Things To Make And Do - Moloko

34. Sigur Ros - Agaetis Byrjun

34. 7 - S Club 7

35. The For Carnation - The For Carnation

35. Halfway Between the Gutter and the Stars - Fatboy Slim

36. Mansun - Little Kix

36. Oops I Did it Again - Britney Spears

37. Shea Seger - May Street Project

37. Playing My Game - Lene Marlin

38. Tarbox Ramblers - Tarbox Ramblers

38. Gladiator - Soundtrack

39. OST - Oh Brother Where Art Thou?

39. Two Against Nature - Steely Dan

40. Magnetic Fields - 69 Love Songs

40. Now That's What I Call Music Vol.46 - Various

41. Bent - Programmed to Love

41. Greatest Hits: Shining Like A National Guitar - Paul Simon

42. Dandy Warhols - Thirteen Tales From Urban Bohemia

42. Affirmation - Savage Garden

43. En Vogue - Masterpiece Theare

43. The Beach - Various

44. Jayhawks - Smile

44. Californication - The Red Hot Chilli Peppers

45. John Scofield - Bump

45. The Collection - Barry White

46. Bobo Stenson - Serenity

46. Music To Watch Girls By Vol.1 - Various

47. Goldfrapp - The Felt Mountain

47. ABBA Gold: Greatest Hits - ABBA

48. Deltron 3030 - Deltron 3030

48. Ambient - Moby

49. Queens of the Stone Age - Rated R

49. Songs From the Last Century - George Michael

50. And You Will Know Us By The Trail of the Dead - Madonna

50. Is There Anybody Out There - Pink Floyd

51. Common - Like Water for Chocolate

51. Light Years - Kylie Minogue

52. Cosmic Rough Riders - Enjoy the Melodic Sunshine

52. Lost Songs 1995 - 1998 - David Gray

53. Elliott Smith - Figure 8

53. No Angel - Dido

54. Thievery Corporation - The Mirror Conspiracy

54. Big Calm - Morcheeba

55. Tom McRae - Tom McRae

55. Moon Safari - Air

56. U2 - All That You Can't Leave Behind

56. Midnite Vultures - Beck

57. Wynton Marsalis - Marciac Suite

57. Vertigo - Groove Armada

58. Alabama 3 - La Peste

58. Corrs - MTV Unplugged - Corrs

59. Elastica - The Menace

59. Pieces in a Modern Style - Samuel Barber

60. Emmylou Harris - Red Dirt Girl

60. Lost Souls - Doves

61. Clinic - Internal Wrangler

61. Songbird - Eva Cassidy

62. Teenage Fanclub - Howdy!

62. Fragments of Freedom - Morcheeba

63. Alison Moorer - The Hardest Part

63. Time After Time - Eva Cassidy

64. Chris Morris - Blue Jam

64. Baby One More Time - Britney Spears

65. Marc Ribot - Muy Divertido

65. Performance and Cocktails - Stereophonics

66. 23 Skidoo - 23 Skidoo

66. Invincible Summer - kd Lang

67. Fatboy Slim - Halfway Between the Gutter and the Stars

67. Tales From New York - Simon & Garfunkel

68. OST - Gladiator

68. Leftism - Leftfield

69. Ruben Gonzalez - Chanchullo

69. Beyond Skin - Nitin Sawhney

70. Bjork - Selma's Songs

70. Heliocentric - Paul Weller

71. Marilyn Manson - Holy Wood

71. Enema of the State - Blink 182

72. Giant Sand - Chore of Enchantment

72. Painting it Red - Beautiful South

73. Meter et al - Messiaen Quartet for the End of Time

73. Daisies of the Galaxy - Eels

74. Clint Boon Experience - Life in Transition

74. Tropical Brainstorm - Kirsty MacColl

75. Courtney Pine - Back in the Day

75. Caf - Del Mar Ibiza Vol 7 - Various

76. D'angelo - Voodoo

76. Dr Dre 2001 - Dr Dre

77. Gorky's Zygotic Mynci - The Blue Trees

77. Coast to Coast - Westlife

78. JJ72 - JJ72

78. Showbiz - Muse

79. Lalo Schifrin - Latin Jazz Suite

79. Slim Shady LP- Eminem

80. New Hellenic Quartet - Skalkottas - string Quartets 3&4

80. Now That's What I Call Music Vol.45 - Various

81. OST - On the Beach

81. S-Club - S Club 7

82. Tribal Tech - Rocket Science

82. Westlife - Westlife

83. Wookie - Wookie

83. Back To Mine - Various Artists

84. Spearmint - Oklahoma!

84. Xtrmntr - Primal Scream

85. Brassy - Got it Made

85. There Is Nothing Left to Lose - Foo Fighters

86. St Germain - Tourist

- 86. I've Been Expecting You - Robbie Williams
- 87. Hesperion XX - Diaspora Sefardi
- 87. Best of Van Morrison - Van Morrison
- 88. Cathal Coughlan - Black River Falls
- 88. Forever - Spice Girls
- 89. Angela Gheorghiu - Verdi Heroines
- 89. O Brother, Where Art Thou? - Soundtrack
- 90. Bert Jansch - Crimson Moon
- 90. Who is Jill Scott? Jill Scott
- 91. Kennedy - Bach
- 91. Peace - Eurythmics
- 92. Bohren & Der Club of Gore - Sunset Mission
- 92. Drawn from Memory - Embrace
- 93. Chung - Dvorak Symphonies 6&8
- 93. Fold Your Hands Child, You Walk Like a Peasant - Belle & Sebastian
- 94. Steely Dan - Two Against Nature
- 94. Tourist - St. Germain
- 95. Gary Burton - Libertango
- 95. Behind The Sun - Chicane
- 96. Hagen Quartet - Bartok String Quartets
- 96. Magnolia - Aimee Mann
- 97. Hugh Cornwell - Hi Fi
- 97. The Virgin Suicides - Air
- 98. Jack Drag - Soft Songs LP: Aviating
- 98. Both Sides Now - Joni Mitchell
- 99. Jimi Tenor - Out of Nowhere
- 99. You're the One - Paul Simon
- 100. Mira Calix - OneOnOne
- 100. JJ72 - JJ72

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