

# Music releases, reissues heavy on nostalgia

BY JOSH KRAUTER  
senior staff writer

If the fall compact disc release schedule is any indication, hibernation season is over for many sleepy rock stars.

Several artists who have been largely inactive during the past few years are back. Coinciding with this resurgence of old talent, old product will be shipped to stores in new wrappers. Record companies are setting their nostalgia machines for stun as an enormous amount of re-releases and greatest hits albums will be arriving in stores in August and September. The season will also include the usual array of expected and anticipated releases from newer bands and mainstays.

Soul artists comprise the bulk of those returning from hiatus. Bobby Womack releases a gospel album, "Back to My Roots," and Peabo Bryson returns with a New Age album, "Peace On Earth," on Tuesday, Sept. 14 is highlighted by new studio albums from Smokey Robinson and Wilson Pickett. Pickett's album is his first new studio album in nearly 30 years.

Other big names making big comebacks include Iggy Pop, John Paul Jones, Chris Cornell and the Cure. Pop's album is a somber, jazz-inflected turn away from his usual brand of punkish hard rock and features jazz group Medeski, Martin & Wood. Former Led Zeppelin bassist Jones releases his first-ever solo album on Sept. 14, while former Soundgarden singer Cornell goes out on his own for the first time on Sept. 21, the same day the Cure's new album, "Blood Flowers," is released.

Some comebacks may leave listeners scratching their heads. Jethro Tull returns with "j-tull.com," but naming an album after the band's Web site has got to be the last gasp of a dinosaur act trying to reach new fans.

Former Mountain singer Leslie West returns with "As Phat As It Gets," continuing the trend of has-beens appropriating youth culture for album titles. Former Cult lead singer Ian

Astbury releases his solo album, "Natural Born Guerilla," on Sept. 21. The album will probably hit cut-out bins a week later. Finally, Queensryche hops on the millennium bandwagon with "Q2K," even though they haven't been selling records since 1992.

High-profile releases for the fall include Puff Daddy's "Forever" on Tuesday, Megadeth's "Risk" and Dixie Chicks' "Fly" on Aug. 31, and Ice Cube's "War & Peace Vol. 2: The Peace Disc," Ol' Dirty Bastard's "Nigga Please" and Jon Spencer Blues Explosion's B-sides collection "Xtra Acme USA" on Sept. 7.

October's tentative lineup includes possible new albums from David Bowie, Melissa Etheridge, Smashing Pumpkins, Mariah Carey, Primus, En Vogue and Counting Crows.

Music fans with non-mainstream taste are in for a slow season this fall, but current releases from Guided By Voices, Flaming Lips and Pavement and the spate of reissues from Captain Beefheart should tide them over.

Janis Joplin's entire catalogue is being remastered and will hit stores Aug. 31, highlighting a varied season of many reissued albums.

Elvis Presley's "The Collection," a 30-CD boxed set, arrives Tuesday, but if that's out of your price range, the "Top Gun" soundtrack is rereleased the same day with three bonus tracks and an interview with the producer.

Aug. 31 unleashes greatest hits albums from Blue Oyster Cult, Marvin Gaye, The Supremes, The Temptations, Three Dog Night and Stevie Wonder and reissues from Billy Bragg, Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash and Tammy Wynette.

Talking Heads' "Stop Making Sense" soundtrack is reissued to coincide with the film's rerelease on Sept. 7, while the Beatles' remastered "Yellow Submarine" soundtrack hits stores Sept. 14, although the movie will stay in the vaults. The Beach Boys release two separate greatest hits albums, and the Who unleashes "Live at the BBC" on Sept. 21.

All release dates are subject to change.

# Concerts ring with diversity

BY JASON HARDY  
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From a pop princess and country icons to alternarockers and Hessians, the line up for this fall's Nebraska tour schedule has a little something for everybody.

Some of this semester's most notable acts to grace a Nebraska stage are also coming the soonest. Starting on Aug. 27, the Nebraska State Fair has a lineup any country boy would love, beginning with the hard-living but smooth-singing Willie Nelson. The night after Nelson's performance, Chris LeDoux will offer a modern twist on the country sound, and on Aug. 29, Creedence Clearwater Revisited will take a trip down memory lane.

Other highlights of the state fair include Billy Ray Cyrus on Aug. 31, Semisonic on Sept. 4, Def Leppard on Sept. 5 and the one and only Alabama

on Sept. 6.

Aside from the big boys at the state fair, there are also a number of smaller shows both in Lincoln and Omaha that are sure to turn some heads.

The new breed of dark hard rock will be making a strong showing this semester starting with Coal Chamber, Slipknot and Machinehead at Lincoln's Royal Grove on Monday and again when Caustic Resin plays at Knickerbockers on Sept. 28.

Of course, Nebraska always seems to draw a healthy amount of hair bands that used to be huge, and this semester is no different as Dokken and Great White are set to share the stage at Lincoln's Royal Grove on Aug. 26.

But wait, the rock doesn't stop there. On Nov. 16, the big ZZ Top/Lynyrd Skynyrd tour will hit the Omaha Civic Auditorium for a night of furry guitars, furry guys and a whole lot of southern pride.

Despite the rock-heavy lineup for this semester's concerts, there is a little

something for those who like the softer side of music. In fact, it doesn't get any softer than pop diva Celine Dion, who will play the Omaha Civic Auditorium on Sept. 29. Also performing at the Civic Auditorium are a number of Christian music acts, including Wayne Watson on Oct. 1 and Point of Grace on Dec. 13.

The Zoo Bar is set to continue its tradition of top notch blues this semester with appearances by Lil' Ed and the Blues Imperials on Oct. 15 and 16 and Coco Montoya on Oct. 6.

Both Knickerbockers and Duffy's Tavern are doing their part to offer edgy underground music a place to play with L7 playing Knickerbockers on Aug. 27 and House of Large Sizes playing Duffy's Tavern on Sept. 19.

There are, of course, many other less notable acts that will be working the Omaha and Lincoln area this semester, and more big names are sure to be added to the list as time goes on. Until then, there's always karaoke.



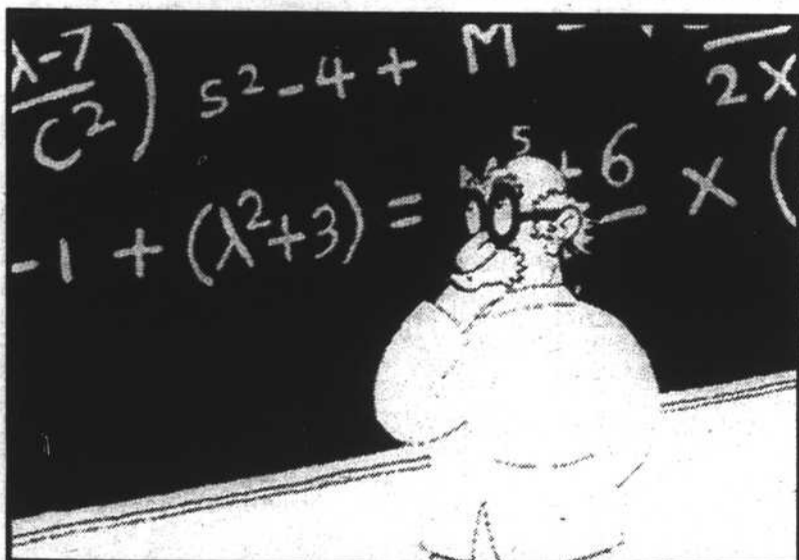
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