

PCR Saturday @Home – Francesca Darby

5th September 2020



1: Nancy Sinatra & Lee Hazlewood – Summer Wine (1968)

First family trip to Italy in my parents VW Beetle (early '70s). It took two days and they only had one cassette!! We knew all the lyrics by the end, but this track has stayed with me ever since. 'Strawberries, cherries and an angel's kiss in Spring...'



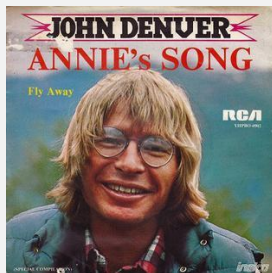
2: The Monkees – I'm a Believer (1967)

Loved 'The Monkees' and avidly watched their TV series as a child. Had huge crush on Davy Jones when I was about 5! Brilliantly upbeat song, written by Neil Diamond. I defy anyone not to feel better about life after listening to it.



3: Disturbed – Sound of Silence (2015)

We were given this song to discuss in our Junior School when I was about 8 or 9. It had never occurred to me that lyrics could be poetry. This version by 'Disturbed' is just spine tingling. David Draiman's voice, which has been described as 'a distorted, operatic baritone' is truly awesome. In real life 'Disturbed's' heavy metal norm is not to my liking!!



4: John Denver – Annie's Song (1974)

A family favourite. My dad loved American country and western. An all-round good sing along, particularly in the car.



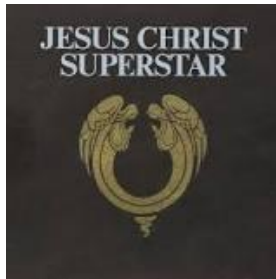
5: Abba – Waterloo (1974)

I loved ABBA and still have all their albums!! Difficult to pick a favourite so decided to go back to where it all started. In the days when Eurovision was taken seriously by the whole family, I can remember them winning with Waterloo and what a storm it created thereafter. Abbamania took hold of the country!!



6: Simon & Garfunkel – Scarborough Fair/Canticle (1966)

My mum adored these guys and this is possibly the most beautiful song ever written.....



7: Andrew Lloyd Webber – Superstar (1971)

When I realised that musical theatre was cool!! It's also hard to appreciate the furore it initially caused due to the story line. Mary Magdalene has been a hero of mine ever since. 'I don't know how to love him' is probably my favourite track but 'Superstar' is its most powerful song, especially when seen live.



8: Mamas & Papas – California Dreamin' (1970)

I wanted to be a hippy and travel to Woodstock!! This song sums it up for me.



9: Duran Duran – Rio (1982)

My first live concert. We went by coach, packed with teenage girls and their mums, and had Duran's music playing the whole journey to London. We were hoarse before the concert started!!

Great video as well.



10: Whitesnake – Here I Go Again (1987)

Soundtrack for my 20s....

And as for Dave Coverdale's hair!!!!



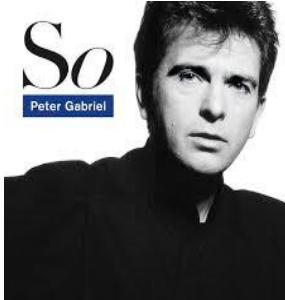
11: Pet Shop Boys – West End Girls (1984)

Had just finished uni and was living on the Fulham Road in shared digs. Life was simple. My best mate had a white Fiat Panda and a group of us would drive around central London with the stereo's volume on full. Those were the days!



12: Fleetwood Mac – Go Your Own Way (1977)

Much of the same. The Rumours album was always being played in our flat - ten years on from its original release.



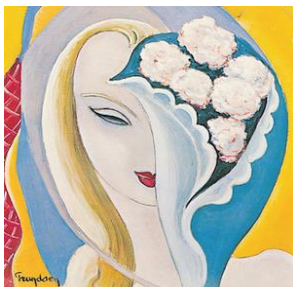
13: Peter Gabriel (with Kate Bush) – Don't Give Up (1986)

This is a beautiful track. I was on a road trip through the West Coast of USA with a friend and this was the only cassette I had. Cannot remember why and I didn't have enough money to buy any other music. Those were the days before you could download music, and a mobile phone was something seen in Dr. Who...



14: Bruce Springsteen – Born to Run (1975)

Possibly one of the best live performers I've ever seen. Could have picked any number of tracks but 'Born to Run' is just special.



15: Derek & The Dominoes – Layla (1970)

Had gravitated from hippy/folk music to rock and just adored this song. A group of friends used to go to a pub in Cockfosters religiously every Sunday night to listen to a band doing covers. We always unsuccessfully requested 'Layla' until one night they played it. The pub went wild. They had practiced it for 6 months before performing it because it was such a difficult track. How special is that.



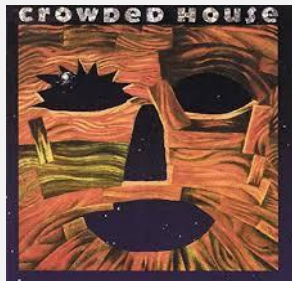
16: Genesis – Follow You Follow Me (1978)

Can't say I am a big fan of Mr. Collins but this is just a beautiful song and one you cannot get out of your head once you've heard it.



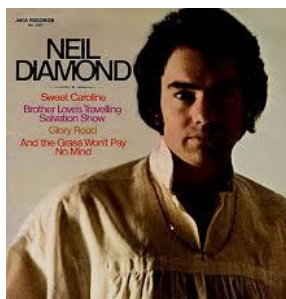
17: Bryan Adams – Heaven (1984)

Another great performer. He thrives on audience participation. This version is from his Wembley Stadium concert in 1996. The video footage of it is great as you can see how blown-away he was by the audience. I dragged Mr. D to see him the following year. He got serious brownie points for that!



18: Crowded House – Fall at your Feet (1991)

Ian and I went to New Zealand in 2000. I spent weeks beforehand compiling cassettes of our favourite music for the trip as we were driving around both Islands. Crowded House (from NZ themselves) just summed up this amazing adventure. I almost selected 'Four Seasons in One Day'.



19: Neil Diamond – Sweet Caroline (1969)

Another family favourite whilst growing up, but I chose this track as it became the Darby's soundtrack for last summer. For those of you not into sport I apologise in advance. England cricket fans took 'Sweet Caroline' on as their anthem a couple of years ago and sang it throughout the Ashes series and also the Cricket World Cup (which England won in case you didn't know!). David Lloyd, cricket commentator, has made this song his own. Somewhat childish but that's sport for you. It summed up a great summer when we could attend mass events and England actually won something.



20: Ed Sheeran – Baby One More Time (2017)

Take a Britney classic and make it your own. Priceless.



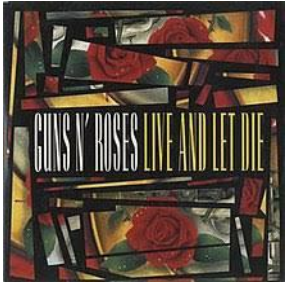
21: Seth Lakeman – The Hurlers (2008)

English folk music is alive and strong, and Seth Lakeman has been at its heart for the last 25 years. A multi-talented musician with a great voice. His songs include lyrics on contemporary life alongside references to the past. Awesome live performer. My dream is to see him perform at the Minack Theatre. I love the drums and fiddle through this piece.



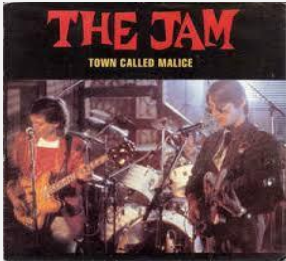
22: Foo Fighters – Learn to Fly (1999)

If you read '5 a Day' you would be aware of the story of Cesena and the 1000 fans who, back in 2015, recorded this track and put it on YouTube in the hope of getting the band to come and play in their home town. It is such a heart-warming story and the footage of all those lovely Italian singers and musicians enjoying themselves is a tonic to the weird world we currently inhabit. If you want to see the video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JozAmXo2bDE>



23: Guns N' Roses – Live and Let Die (1991)

I was never into Wings but 'Live and Let Die' is an inspiration and the best Bond soundtrack in my humble opinion. This version by 'Guns N' Roses', who were one of my favourite bands back in the day, is just mesmerising.



24: The Jam – Town Called Malice (1982)

As with Ian I could have chosen a number of Weller's songs for this playlist, but I went with this track because it has always been my favourite live performance. As we've got older the enthusiasm of the audience for this song has not diminished. I just worry more now for the need of paramedics to pick up the pieces afterwards!



25: Ed Sheeran (feat. Mikill Pane) – Little Lady (2011)

WARNING: EXPLICIT LANGUAGE IN PLACES

Probably the most powerful song I have ever heard and apologies for some of the language. 'Little Lady' is a difficult song to listen to and part of the album 'No. 5 Collaborations Project'. With verses from Mikill Pane, it is a reworking of Sheeran's 'The A-Team'. Written before he became a global phenomenon. At the first time of hearing I was driving back to Pidds and needed to pull over by the end to compose myself. Awesome.



26: Soundtrack of Last of the Mohicans – Promentory (1992)

Not wanting to leave this playlist on such a sombre note I have made a last sneaky inclusion. I love listening to film soundtracks and I think that 'Last of the Mohicans' was probably the first time I recognised the vital role music plays in one's reception of the visual element of movie making. This was an amazingly shot and acted film, but the music adds another dimension. The soundtrack includes the hauntingly beautiful 'I will find you' by Clannad but 'Promentory' with its pulsating Gaelic fiddle and driving drumbeat is a masterpiece.