

Any Major Soul 1964

Written by bluelover

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1. Gene Chandler – *A Song Called Soul* 2. Little Milton – *Who's Cheatin' Who* 3. The Miracles – *Baby Don't You Go* 4. The Gems – *All Of It* 5. The Radiants – *Voice Your Choice* 6. Mitty Collier – *I Had A Talk With My Man Last Night* 7. The Impressions – *I'm So Proud* 8. Lou Johnson – *(There's) Always Something There To Remind Me* 9. Jerry Butler – *I Stand Accused* 10. Lavern Baker – *Go Away* 11. Irma Thomas – *I Wish Someone Would Care* 12. Anna King – *Come On Home* 13. Betty Everett – *It Hurts To Be In Love* 14. The Velvelettes – *He Was Really Saying Somethin'* 15. Dionne Warwick – *Get Rid Of Him* 16. Earl-Jean – *Randy* 17. Solomon Burke – *Stupidity* 18. Sam Cooke – *Ain't That Good News* 19. Baby Washington – *Your Fool* 20. Linda Carr – *Jackie, Bobby, Sonny, Billy* 21. Brenda Holloway – *Sad Song* 22. Gladys Knight & The Pips – *Giving Up* 23. Stevie Wonder – *Until You Come Back To Me (That's What I'm Gonna Do)* 24. The Marvelettes – *Too Many Fish In The Sea* 25. The Sapphires – *Who Do You Love?* 26. Bessie Banks – *Go Now* 27. Nina Simone – *Don't Let Me Be Misunderstood* 28. Arthur Alexander – *Black Night* 29. The Supremes – *Run, Run, Run*

In the past I spread my soul selections over two years, or in the last instalment over four. Frankly, by that method, there is too much great stuff that must be left off. So from here on in we'll run through the 1960s year-by-year.

Many acts here are well-known, though not all were famous at the time the featured song was released. The Supremes' *Run Run Run*, in which Holland-Dozier-Holland tried to go for the Phil Spector sound, tanked at #93 when it was released in February 1964. Their next single, *Where Did Our Love Go*, went to #1, as did the following four.

Lou Johnson's song would become famous in versions by other singers, especially Britain's Sandie Shaw; Lou's was the original (and here a special shout-out to the late Hal David seems

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appropriate). Meanwhile Hal and Burt's muse, Dionne Warwick, chips in here with a song that conforms more to the girl-band sound that was already becoming passé. Though it was produced by Bacharach and David, Get Rid Of Him was written by Brill Building team Helen Miller and Howard Greenfield. It was only an album track and therefore not well-known. And lovely as it is, how could it compete with other songs from the LP, such as Walk On By, A House Is Not A Home, They Long To Be Close To You or Reach Out For Me?

Talking of girl bands, Earl-Jean used to be the singer of The Cookies, who featured twice in The Originals series, HERE and HERE, while Earl-Jean did the original of the Herman Hermits' hit I'm Into Something Good. And talking of originals, the Bessie Banks' song Go Now was later covered by the Moody Blues. Bessie's version was produced by Jerry Leiber and Mike Stoller.

The Radiants were a Chicago group which included Leonard Caston Jr, who not only wrote the Mitty Collier song that follows The Radiants' wonderful Voice Your Choice, but also hits such as Eddie Kendricks' Keep On Trucking and The Supremes' Nathan Jones, and played the piano on Fontellas Bass Rescue Me. The Radiants were once produced by the legendary Billy Davis (who wrote Rescue Me). Davis also wrote the song that precedes that group's song. Listen to the lead singer of The Gems, who recorded on Chess – it is a young Minnie Riperton.

Linda Carr would go on to become a popular singer in Britain in the 1970s as the frontwoman of Linda and the Funky Boys; featured here is the lovely b-side of her debut solo single Sweet Talk.

Anna King had the distinction of being the only one of James Brown's backing singers to have an album produced by the self-proclaimed hardest-working man in show business, with his band doing backing duties. Titled Back To Soul, it was also her only one. Come On Home is credited to Ted Wright – one of Brown's pseudonyms. --- halfhearteddude.com

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