

Vision
The OGAE (UK) Magazine

Issue 56
Eurovision 2004

Holding Out For Victory

Affiliated to Organisation Générale des Amateurs Eurovision

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All contributions for issue 57 of Vision should reach the Editor no later than
15th June 2004

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Issues 15 and 19 onwards cost £3.00 each (£4.00 overseas) inc. P&P.
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Edlines

Welcome to this special edition of Vision that celebrates the forthcoming 2004 Eurovision Song Contest to be held in Istanbul very soon.

With a qualifying contest preceding the main event, together with a record 36 countries taking part, preparation of this issue has been challenging to say the least.

It was decided to summarise the various semi and national finals that have been held, although this tends to produce too many facts and figures for the casual reader. However, many regular features still remain for your enjoyment.

As Eurovision continues to grow in future years, Vision would appreciate hearing your views on what you would like to see in the contest edition to ensure that, where possible, you get what you want!

In the meantime, have a great Eurovision season, fly the flag for our very own James Fox and, as always, may the best song win.

Gordon Lewis

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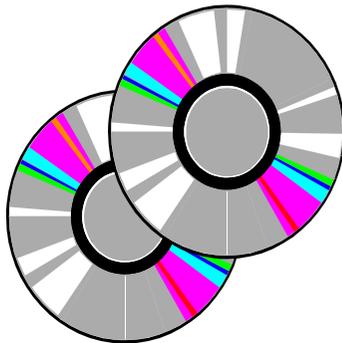
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Holding Out For Victory

The voting in Riga had barely concluded, but the BBC already knew that it should be “nil points never again!” So began the process that would lead to the strongest and most impressive British final of recent years. Shrouded in secrecy, television officials entered into a musical partnership with Sony, choosing five professional songwriters to write potential entries and just one coming through the usual BASCA route. The result was a brand new show entitled ‘Making Your Mind Up’, with songs and performers finally confirmed on 3rd February ahead of a gruelling publicity campaign throughout the country.

Throughout the day on 28th February 2004 Television Centre was buzzing with excitement as the performers and their supporters arrived in readiness for the prime time show. Even the greatest of Eurovision cynics could not help being slightly optimistic about what was about to unfold! Could this really be the point that British interest in the annual event returned to the golden days of the sixties and seventies? It certainly seemed that way!



The show began with Sertab, flown in from Turkey especially for the event, and her winning song “Everyway That I Can” that will surely remain one of the

best Eurovision winners ever. As the applause and pyrotechnics faded away, Terry Wogan and Gaby Roslin took centre stage, introducing the show and its expert panel of Carrie Grant, Lorraine Kelly and Harry Hill. It was then on to the first of six very good songs.



Kelly, Mercedes and Stacey were the names behind the extremely funky Enrap-ture. “Weekend (Gotta Work)” had instant commercial appeal and the colourful threesome were quickly compared to Mis-teeq with a sound not unlike Liberty X. Clearly the bookies favourite, this was considered one to watch from the very first note ... or at least until the second song!

Fresh from his ‘Fame Academy’ appearance, James Fox had the support of many people in the audience that could have caused him additional pressure. Not for James though, who gave a relaxed and confident performance of “Hold On To Our Love”. Young and good looking, he has cross gender appeal that spans the generations and James did not disappoint.

Failing to make the final ten of the first Pop Idol, Haifa was back to show that she still has what it takes to become a successful singer nonetheless. “Me Without You” was an uptempo ballad that unfortunately failed to hit the mark, even though it could so obviously go on to chart success with the right support.



Second favourites, Hyrise, were a boy band not dissimilar to Blue. Matt, Maxwell, Ben and Anthony were the names behind the good-looking foursome, the latter formerly a member of 3SL and brother to Lisa Scott-Lee (Steps). Very much aimed at the teenage vote, "Leading Me On" was a strong contender with a well-choreographed routine that allowed the boys to each show their individual personalities to the full.

Having been something of a child prodigy as lead singer with Ultimate Kaos, Haydon was more than experienced at performing live on television. In the process of re-launching his career, he recently appeared in "Reborn In The USA" alongside former ESC participants Sonia and Gina G. "With You I Believe" was a soulful ballad that could have gone either way following a good performance.

"It Just Gets Better" was generally considered to be the weakest of the six songs and no one expected Madison Taylor to do well. But Eurovision is a world of unpredictable surprises and the young Welsh singer rose to the occasion with an outstanding performance of a seemingly average song. Madison excelled in her task and every vote she received was well deserved.

After the voting process was introduced, an unexpected appearance from former Spice Girl Emma Bunton

provided the interval act. She began by singing lines from "Puppet On A String", before launching into one of her latest tracks, "Maybe". Unfortunately some in the audience were left disappointed as Emma was not there in person, her appearance having been recorded earlier in the day during rehearsals. A quick reprise of all six songs concluded the main show, which then moved to BBC 3 for further coverage and a live performance of "Ooh Aah Just A Little Bit" from mum-to-be Gina G.

Returning some 90 minutes later, Terry and Gaby appeared on stage to commence the voting process that was decided by televoting and SMS. Calling in the regional votes it soon became apparent that James Fox was likely to win. However, the SMS percentage votes were to be turned into points and Hyrise retained the possibility of clinching the title at the very end. But the night belonged to James, and his extremely proud mother who emotionally joined him on stage.

And so, for the second time in three years, the United Kingdom will be represented by a strong ballad performed by a confident singer from Wales. Like Jessica Garlick, James Fox has the experience of singing under pressure from his appearance each week on 'Fame Academy'. He already has many friends in his own country, and will soon make even more across the vast European continent.



James Makes Up His Mind

A busy schedule awaited James Fox ahead of Eurovision, but he still found time to chat with editor Gordon Lewis



Gordon Lewis : Congratulations on winning 'Making Your Mind Up'. How does it feel to be representing your country?

James Fox : Absolutely honoured. I was worried I'd win by 2 votes or something, so to win by such a huge majority was great. It's shows the backing that I had on the night.

GL : Jemini, nil points ... does following such a bad placing at Eurovision worry you?

JF : No, it actually takes the pressure off. I can't do any worse! I'm going to Eurovision and I'm going to do a good job. Let's hope the monitor's work!!!

GL : What were your thoughts about taking part in the UK's Eurovision selection when you were first asked?

JF : Sceptical. I was slightly worried at first, partly on the back of last year. In the areas I work the contest is not held in high regard. It's seen as negative by bands and writers alike. Knowing that Sony were backing the show was also a great help in deciding. But lots of my memories are Eurovision related. My

dad was a big fan of Cliff Richard and The Shadows, so I grew up with their songs and entries.

GL : "Hold On To Our Love" is an amazing song, so what did you think about it when you first heard it?

JF : I was given a selection of three or four songs to choose from that reflected my usual style. When I heard "Hold On To Our Love" I knew it had to be the one.

GL : There was certainly a feel good factor among all the performers on the day of the final, but did you have any personal favourites among the other songs?

JF : The Hyrise song drove me mad. I couldn't get it out of my head. And Enrap-ture. I really got to like that one. Everyone was great and the more I spoke to them the more we became friends ... and the more I started to worry about my own chances!

GL : The final voting process was very tense, but how did this compare to your recent appearances on 'Fame Academy' where you had to go through something very similar several times?

JF : It was like I imagined the final vote on 'Fame Academy' would have been. I don't usually get nervous and try not to let myself down. The final text vote was the worst. It could have changed everything. Anyone could have won, even the song that came last.

GL : Talking of 'Fame Academy', you came in for much unfair criticism from a certain Richard Parkes. How did you manage to overcome some negative reactions?

JF : I wasn't really listening. I've had tougher gigs than that and quickly lost interest in his unconstructive views. I wouldn't let him get to me and I have no respect for the guy. I guess it's my tough rhino skin that helped me cope!

GL : During your time in the Academy you struck up a strong friendship with

second placed Alistair Griffin. Is there any possibility that you might write or record together in the future?

JF : We're flatmates and have been talking about doing some writing very soon if my schedule allows. I have an album in the offing and I hope to get a track performed by both of us included. We're both very keen, if not now definitely in the long term.

GL : What about the other Academy students? How did you get on with them and are you in contact with any of the others?

JF : I was worried at first. 13 people who had never met all put together in a house for the first time. It just doesn't work, but everyone was picked really well and there were no major problems. I still keep in touch with most of them. But having to vote people off each week and take their dream away from them was the hardest part. It was very hard to do that to people who had become friends.

GL : Carrie Grant does seem to have supported you, both in the Academy and more recently on 'Making Your Mind Up'. Has she given you any Eurovision advice based on her own contest appearance back in 1983?

JF : I haven't seen her appearance yet! Carrie didn't always agree with me, but she was constructive and I respect her for that. David was great and has given me lots of good advice. As for Eurovision, I've had no direct advice yet but I'm planning to catch up with Carrie before I go to Turkey.

GL : Carrie's Eurosong is still remembered for its dodgy choreography, whereas you just stand on stage with your guitar and sing. What do you think about the theory that today's stars have to sing and dance in order to be successful?

JF : It's ridiculous. Sting, Billy Joel and Elton John didn't have to dance to

become successful. Dancing is not in the area of music that I do!



GL : Looking ahead to Istanbul, what do you think of some of the entries that you have already managed to hear?

JF : Those bizarre Cossack dancers! Very weird! Then there was some guy in leather with lots of dancers behind him. I've been told it's very male dominated this year. I'm not over impressed so far, but I've been told that Sweden could be the one to watch and that they're the last country to choose their entry. But I'll do my best and not worry too much about the competition!

GL : The Irish song has been co-written by former Westlife member, Bryan McFadden, while last year t.A.T.u represented Russia. Do you think well known names should be encouraged to take part in Eurovision?

JF : I'm a hug fan of Westlife and they've had some great songs, but I didn't realise that Bryan was into writing until recently. My own writers have had

chart success, but I guess they're not the household name that Bryan is. It'll be interesting to see what happens.

GL : Two years ago another Welsh singer, Jessica Garlick, represented the United Kingdom but was also proud to be representing Wales. Are you equally loyal to the 'land of song'?

JF : Completely! It'll be great to see the Welsh flag up there with all the others. We're part of Britain and I'm British as much as I am Welsh. I've been told the winning country hosts the next contest and it would be fantastic to see Eurovision come home to Cardiff.

GL : Eurovision is the show that people love to hate and yet most have a favourite song from the contest. So what would your Eurovision favourite be?

JF : Bucks Fizz, it has to be Bucks Fizz. And The Shadows! I'm too young to remember it, but my dad used to play it and I tried to copy the guitar breaks. It's strange though, 'cos I've always had a feeling inside that I would end up singing at Eurovision. And here I am!

GL : When you're not performing or rehearsing, what type of music do you like to listen to and who has been your greatest influence?

JF : Billy Joel. I remember watching a live gig on television when I was seven and, at a piano lesson the next day, told the teacher I wanted to be Billy Joel. I also enjoy Elton John, Sting, Travis and David Gray. I shouldn't forget The Beatles either because they led the way for British music. Music was their passion and music is my passion too.

GL : Your proud mother was one of the first to congratulate you after your impressive victory. How important are family and friends to you?

JF : You wouldn't believe it. My mum used to drive the van for a band I was in. She used to work all day and then

be our roadie all night. She never missed a gig. We lost my Gran last year, but she never missed a gig either. Amazing ladies. And after leaving school my brother, Dean, was drummer for the band for about five years.

GL : Whatever the outcome in Turkey, what are your immediate plans for your future career?

JF : I'm about to tour with Lulu, then there's the single, contest and, on the back of that, a second single. Fingers crossed it all works out. Wait and see!

GL : Lulu won Eurovision back in 1969 but hasn't considered this a high point in her career. Have you spoken to her about the contest yet?

JF : No, she hasn't spoken much about Eurovision yet. I'm on tour for 10 days so I'll have to pick her brains then!

GL : You have already established a huge fan base in the United Kingdom and will no doubt do the same throughout Europe in the very near future. All your supporters send their very best wishes for a great night on 15th May, knowing that you will fly the flag with confidence and pride. Thank you for talking to 'Vision'.

JF : Thanks for your time! It's been great and I appreciate all the support.



Türkiye Radyo-Televizyon

welcomes you to the 49th



to be held on

Wednesday 12th May

and

Saturday, 15th May

Presented by Meltem Cumbul and Korhan Abay

Official Website : www.eurovision.tv

Eurovision Song Contest

Qualifying Round 12th May 2004

22 countries will compete in the qualifying round. The ten best placed songs will then proceed to the Grand Final

Finland	"Takes 2 To Tango"	Jari Sillanpää
Belarus	"My Galileo"	Alexandra & Konstantin
Switzerland	"Celebrate"	Piero Esteriore & the Music Stars
Latvia	"Dziesma Par Laimi"	Fomins & Kleins
Israel	"Le'ha'amin"	David D'Or
Andorra	"Jugarem A Estimar-nos"	Marta Roure
Portugal	"Foi Magia"	Sofia
Malta	"On Again, Off Again"	Julie & Ludwig
Monaco	"Notre Planète"	Maryon
Greece	"Shake It"	Sakis Rouvas
Ukraine	"Wild Dances"	Ruslana Lyzhichko
Lithuania	"What's Happened To Your Love?"	Linas & Simona
Albania	"The Image Of You"	Anjeza Shahini
Cyprus	"Stronger Every Minute"	Lisa Andreas
FYRoM	"Life Is ..."	Tose Proevski
Slovenia	"Stay Forever"	Platin
Estonia	"Tii"	Neiokõsõ
Croatia	"You Are My Only One"	Ivan Mikulic
Denmark	"Shame On You"	Tomas Thordarson
Serbia & Mont.	"Lane Moje"	Zeljko Joksimovic
Bosnia Herz.	"In The Disco"	Deen
Netherlands	"Without You"	Reunion

Eurovision Song Contest Grand Final 15th May 2004

The open positions will be filled by the top 10 songs from the Qualifying Round

Spain	“Para Llenarme De Ti”	Ramón
Austria	“Du Bist”	Tie Break
Norway	“High”	Knut Anders Sørum
France	“A Chaque Pas”	Jonatan Cerrada
OPEN		
OPEN		
OPEN		
Germany	“Can’t Wait Until Tonight”	Max
OPEN		
Belgium	“1 Life”	Xandee
Russia	“Believe Me”	Julia Savicheva
OPEN		
OPEN		
Iceland	“Heaven”	Jónsi
Ireland	“If The World Stops Turning”	Chris Doran
Poland	“Love Song”	Blue Café
United Kingdom	“Hold On To Our Love”	James Fox
OPEN		
Turkey	“For Real”	Athena
Romania	“I Admit”	Sanda Ladosi
Sweden	“It Hurts”	Lena Philipsson

- Information correct at the time of going to print. Any late changes will be announced on line at www.uk.ogae.net

- Vision would like to thank all participating television, record and management companies for their assistance with this issue, not least the BBC’s very own Simon Proctor for making this a special year in the UK’s Eurovision history.

2004 Participants

Listed in alphabetical order
Performance order on pages 10-11

Albania

Song : "The Image Of You"
Original Title : "Imazhi Yt"
Performer : Anjeza Shahini



Debutants Albania were the first country to choose their entry for the 2004 Eurovision Song Contest. Two semi-finals were held in Tirana on 18th and 19th December 2003, followed by a grand final on 20th December. The voting was a combined televote and jury process, although only the top three were announced. Sertab Erener was the special guest on the final evening, beginning the first of several national final appearances. The song starts as a slow piano ballad, before launching into an uptempo pop number.

1st Semi Final 18 December 2003

1. "Eja"
Orges Toçe - qualified
2. "Jeto Jetën Tënde"
Fazile Syla - eliminated

3. "Nata"
Arjan Hasanlliu - eliminated
4. "Pranë Teje"
Elvana Gjata - eliminated
5. "Me Ty"
Rudi & Ingrid Jushi - qualified
6. "Kthehu Dhe Kujto"
Voltan Prodani - qualified
7. "Dashuri A Loje"
Aurel Thellimi - eliminated
8. "Bota Ime"
Arbër Arapi - qualified
9. "E Nesërmja Tjetër Kujt I Takon"
Kozma Dushi - qualified
10. "Ç'punë Ke Ti Me Dashurinë"
Ermiona Lekbello - qualified
11. "Një Shpresë Për Jetën Time"
Klajdi Musabelli - qualified
12. "E Dashuruar"
Evis Mula - qualified
13. "Sa Herë Gë Vjen Pranvera"
Saimir Çili - eliminated
14. "Njemije Zemra"
Rovena Dilo - qualified

2nd Semi Final 19 December 2003

1. "Sikur Te Rroja Sa Kjo Botë"
Andi Kongo - qualified
2. "Kthehu"
Erida Rexhepi - eliminated
3. "Ju Të Dashurat E Mia"
Kujtim Prodani - qualified

4.	“Trill Vjeshte” Edmond Mancaku	- qualified	4.	“Dashuri A Loje” Aurel Thellimi	
5.	“E Kam Një Sekret” Anila Jonuzi	- eliminated	5.	“Bota Ime” Arbër Arapi	
6.	“Dua Dhe S'dua” Gjergi Jorgaqi	- eliminated	6.	“E Nesërmja Tjetër Kujt I Takon” Kozma Dushi	
7.	“Sytë E Zemrës” Anisa Dervina	- qualified	7.	“Ç'punë Ke Ti Me Dashurinë” Ermona Lekbello	
8.	“Ike” Rijet Pirani	- eliminated	8.	“Një Shpresë Për Jetën Time” Klajdi Musabelli	
9.	“Imazhi Yt” Anjeza Shahini	- qualified	9.	“E Dashuruar” Evis Mula	
10.	“Rritu Pa Mbarim” Bashkim Rodoni	- eliminated	10.	“Njemije Zemra” Rovena Dilo	
11.	“Qëndroj” Eneda Tarifa	- qualified	11.	“Sikur Te Rroja Sa Kjo Botë” Andi Kongo	
12.	“Hirushja” Rosela Gjylbegu	- qualified	12.	“Ju Të Dashurat E Mia” Kujtim Prodani	
13.	“Syri I Saj Po Më Verbon” Françesk Radi	- qualified	13.	“Trill Vjeshte” Edmond Mancaku	
14.	“Fjala” Saimir Braho	- eliminated	14.	“Sytë E Zemrës” Anisa Dervina	
15.	“Mbi Urë” Mariza Ikonomi	- qualified	15.	“Imazhi Yt” Anjeza Shahini	1st
Grand Final 20 December 2003			16.	“Qëndroj” Eneda Tarifa	
1.	“Eja” Orges Toçe		17.	“Hirushja” Rosela Gjylbegu	3rd
2.	“Me Ty” Rudi & Ingrid Jushi		18.	“Syri I Saj Po Më Verbon” Françesk Radi	
3.	“Kthehu Dhe Kujto” Voltan Prodani		19.	“Mbi Urë” Mariza Ikonomi	2nd

Andorra

Song : "Jugarem A Estimar-nos"

Translation : "Playing At Loving "

Performer : Marta Roure



Held on 14th March 2004 the Andorran final, '12 Punts', commenced its journey on 28th November 2003. Three established singers were asked to compete with six new acts from which two were selected on 20th December. Unsurprisingly these were two of the established performers, with only popular singer Jordi Botey unable to attract sufficient votes. All six newcomers failed to make any lasting impression. Beginning on 18th January soloist Marta Roure and duo Bis a Bis presented 12 songs to the Andorran public in a series of six quarter finals. The most popular song from each then competed in two semi finals of three songs, culminating in a two song final that eventually chose the Eurovision entry. To confuse matters even more, each performer sang both songs in

part, adding to the excitement of not knowing who would eventually sing the song chosen for Eurovision! In addition to the three established acts already mentioned, the six newcomers were Marta Dallerés; Marta Roquet; Armanda Vasconvelos; Eva Gómez; Juanjo García; and Verònica Castro;

1st Quarter Final 18 January 2004

1. "Jugarem A Estimar-nos"
(*J Bardagi*)
Marta Roure 4 / 1st
2. "El Destí"
(*Elena Curto*)
Bis a Bis 3 / 2nd

2nd Quarter Final 25 January 2004

1. "Vine"
(*David Ambrosio*)
Bis a Bis 5 / 1st
2. "Si Et Perds"
(*Berta*)
Marta Roure 2 / 2nd

3rd Quarter Final 1 February 2004

1. "És Que Si"
(*Martínez/Segarra*)
Bis a Bis 1 / 2nd
2. "Terra"
(*Jordi Vidal*)
Marta Roure 6 / 1st

4th Quarter Final 8 February 2004

1. "No Esperis Amor"
(*Alquezar/Rodo*)
Bis a Bis 3 / 2nd
2. "Crec"
(*Josep Thio*)
Marta Roure 4 / 1st

5th Quarter Final 15 February 2004

1. "Confia En Mi"
(*Brigit García*)
Bis a Bis 3 / 2nd
2. "En Quedarà"
(*Ibáñez/Hermosilla*)
Marta Roure 4 / 1st

6th Quarter Final 22 February 2004

1. "No Es Nou"
(*Natxo Torres*)
Marta Roure 4 / 1st
2. "Anem Cap Al Nord"
(*Forteza/Bardavid*)
Bis a Bis 3 / 2nd

1st Semi Final 1 March 2004

1. "No Es Nou"
Marta Roure 3 / 2nd
2. "Terra"
Bis a Bis 4 / 1st
3. "En Quedarà"
Both Performers 0 / 3rd

2nd Semi Final 8 March 2004

1. "Crec"
Marta Roure 0 / =2nd
2. "Jugarem A Estimar-nos"
Bis a Bis 7 / 1st
3. "Vine"
Both Performers 0 / =2nd

Grand Final 15 March 2004

1. "Terra"
Bis a Bis 2 / 2nd
2. "Jugarem A Estimar-nos"
Marta Roure 5 / 1st

Austria

Song : "Du Bist"
Translation : "You Are"
Performers : Tie Break



Still celebrating the unprecedented success of Alf Poier in Riga, ORF organised a ten song final on 5th March 2004 under the name 'Song.Null.Vier'. As well as the return of 1976 Austrian participants Waterloo & Robinson, the final also featured a posthumous song from the pen of Austrian singer Falco who was tragically killed in 1998. But it was boyband Tie Break who won the opportunity to represent their country in Istanbul. The song is a strong piano ballad.

1. "Shine On"
(*Alfred Jaklitsch*)
Zabine 5% / 7th
2. "Millionaire"
(*Strahinja Knezevic/Ina Wolf/Aleksandar Persisic*)
Daniel Djuric 8% / =5th
3. "My Istanbul"
(*Can Isik/Andreas Jud/Thomas Bürgin*)
Mizan 1% / 10th
4. "Good 2 see U"
(*Thomas Krampfl/Rob Davis*)
Rob Davis 8% / =5th

5. "You Can Change The World"
(*Peter Janda*)
Waterloo & Robinson 21% / **2nd**
6. "Rich White Man"
(*Paul Kreshka*)
5 In Love 10% / **=3rd**
7. "Hold Me"
(*Georg Peter/Elnaz*)
Elnaz 3% / **8th**
8. "Link Love"
(*Ide*)
Ide 10% / **=3rd**
9. "Du Bist"
(*Peter Zimmermann*)
Tie Break 32% / **1st**
10. "Sexuality"
(*Ronnie Rocket/Falco*)
André Leherb 2% / **9th**

Belarus

Song : "My Galileo"
Original Title : "Moj Galilej"
Performers : Alexandra & Konstantin



The first Belarussian final for Eurovision was held in the capital, Minsk, on 25th January but not broadcast until nearly a week later on 31st January 2004. Televoting took place following the recorded transmission, with literally a handful of internet votes added to the final results prior to announcement. Despite having to qualify, the song is already tipped by some as a possible contender for the Grand Prix. The melody is based upon a traditional folk style and likely to be a Eurovision party favourite for many years to come. Think of Rednex playing Riverdance and you'll see why!

1. "They Say"
(*Adelina Petrosyan*)
Adelina Petrosyan 1920 / **15th**
2. "Moj Galilej"
(*A Kirsanova/K Drapezo/A Solomaha*)
Alexandra & Konstantin 2311 / **1st**
3. "Find A Great Love"
(*Evgeni Oleinik/Pavel Baranovski*)
Irina Dorofeeva 2067 / **4th**
4. "Pust Tajet Sneg"
(*Maksim Sapatkov*)
Maksim Sapatkov 2119 / **3rd**
5. "Dozdis"
(*Leonid Sharin*)
Natalja Tamelo 1937 / **12th**
6. "Ja Pytajus"
(*Sergey Matveenko/Dmitry Pavlov*)
Olga Molcanova 1932 / **13th**
7. "Ljubov Ne Ostanovit"
(*Michael Jay/Raen Lobcher*)
Natalja Podolskaja 2213 / **2nd**
8. "Ja Hranju Nadezdu"
(*Aleksandra Gaiduk/Aleksandr Ivanov*)
Aleksandra Gajduk 2039 / **5th**

9. "Pesnja O Ljubvi"
(*Vladimir Kurlovich/Sergey Borisevich*)
Polina Smolovo 1977 / **8th**
10. "Svoboda"
(*Leonid Shirin/Corriana*)
Corriana 2008 / **6th**
11. "Skazi Mne"
(*Yana*)
Yana 1954 / **10th**
12. "Ne Perezivaj"
(*Oleg Eliseenkov/Oleg Zhukov*)
Aleksandr Solodukha 1996 / **7th**
13. "Prosto Slova"
(*Vitaly Penzin/Vladimir Kubishkin*)
Anna Bogdanova 1967 / **9th**
14. "S Prekrasnym Svetom"
(*Dmitry Starovoitov/Dmitry Demidov*)
Dmitrij Starovojtov & MiLR
1927 / **14th**
15. "LeI"
(*Zhanet/Gennadi Melnikov*)
Janet 1948 / **11th**

Disqualified

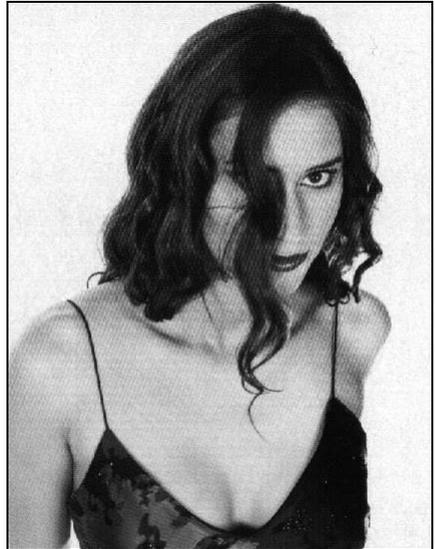
1. "Kali Cakra, A U Luzi?"
Yuria Band

Belgium

Song : "1 Life"
Performer : Xandee

The Flemish broadcaster, VRT, were responsible for choosing the Belgian entry through a series of semi finals that commenced in January. Among the 28 acts taking part were found Barbara Dex (BE93) and the infamous Nicole & Hugo (BE73). The winner of each semi final went forward to a grand final, where they were joined by the three highest scoring second placed

songs. But the former contestants failed in their bid for a second chance, leaving sultry Xandee to represent Belgium with a modern dance track. Following its release the song went straight to number one – virtually unprecedented for a Belgian Eurovision entry.



1st Semi Final 18 January 2004

1. "Yes Or No"
(*Eric Geurts/Nathalie Vangronsvelt*)
Yanah 17 / **5th**
2. "Every Dead Soldier"
(*Chris Morton/Dick Morton/Alain Croisy*)
Chris D Morton 28 / **3rd**
3. "Maria Maria Maria"
(*Thomas Selis*)
De Egels 13 / **7th**
4. "Don't Be Scared"
(*Katia Berlingieri/Wim Claes*)
Katia Berlingieri 25 / **4th**

5. "1 Life"
(Dirk Paelinck/Marc Paelinck)
Xandee 54 / 1st

6. "Jij"
(Niels Megens/M Flamman)
Storm 16 / 6th

7. "Love Is All Around"
(Miguel Wiels/Alain van de Putte/Peter Gillis)
Nicole & Hugo 33 / 2nd

2nd Semi Final 25 January 2004

1. "Never Say Goodbye"
(Gregory Bilsen/Marc Paelinck)
Quatro 9 / 7th

2. "My Heart"
(Kurt Lotigiers)
Kurt 26 / 4th

3. "Kerosene"
(Piet van den Heuvel)
Sofie van Moll 36 / 3rd

4. "Chemistry"
(Raf van Brussel)
Raf van Brussel 42 / 2nd

5. "Vieze Ouwe Venten"
(Alain van de Putte/Tracy Atkins)
CLIC 12 / 6th

6. "Je Chante Pour Toi"
(Marianne Valvekens/Marc Requile/Frank Jordens)
Biba Binoche 18 / 5th

7. "Amorè Loco"
(Piet van den Heuvel/Roel de Ruijter)
Elsie Morais 43 / 1st

3rd Semi Final 1 February 2004

1. "Don't You Stop The Music"
(Dirk Paelinck/Marc Paelinck)
Astrid 38 / 2nd

2. "Freakin' Destiny"
(Raffaele Vetrugno/Fred Bekky)
Raffaele 12 / 7th

3. "The Happy Song"
(Marino van Ysacker)
The Acrolls 20 / 5th

4. "Television Game"
(Danny van Wauwe/Edmond 'S Jegers)
Roxane 49 / 1st

5. "I Will Choose You"
(John Terra/Daniel Gijbels/Guy Balbaert)
Garry Hagger 13 / 6th

6. "Say Love"
(Dirk Paelinck/Marc Paelinck)
Marjolein 21 / 4th

7. "Jan Zonder Vrees"
(Danny Verbiest/Hans Bourlon/Gert Verhulst)
Spring 33 / 3rd

4th Semi Final 8 February 2004

1. "Angels"
(Dirk Paelinck/Marc Paelinck)
Eva 20 / 5th

2. "Time To Party"
(Lex de Groot/Piet van den Heuvel/Roel de Ruijter)
Sodapop 12 / =6th

3. "God In Alle Eenvoud"
(Amaryllis Temmerman/David Poltrock)
Amaryllis 12 / =6th

4. "Cry Love"
(Peter Elkins/Sebastiaan Bouckaert)
Peter Elkins 26 / 3rd

5. "Higher Than The Sun"
(Yurek Onzia/Vincent Pierens)
Natalia 50 / 1st

6. "Innocent"
(*Nariman Farbod/Nima Farbod*)
X-Elementz 20 / 4th
7. "One Life"
(*Alides Hidding/Barbara Dex*)
Barbara Dex & Alides Hidding
46 / 2nd

Eurosong Final 15 February 2004

1. "Television Game"
Roxane 20 / 5th
2. "One Life"
Barbara Dex & Alides Hidding
30 / 3rd
3. "Amorè Loco"
Elsie Morais 26 / 4th
4. "Don't You Stop The Music"
Astrid 14 / 6th
5. "1 Life"
Xandee 50 / 1st
6. "Chemistry"
Raf van Brussel 8 / 7th
7. "Higher Than The Sun"
Natalia 38 / 2nd

Bosnia & Herzegovina

Song : "In The Disco"
Performer : Deen

PBSBiH, the broadcasting company of Bosnia Hersegovina, decided to appoint their singer for 2004 in preference to a national final. Deen, Sajid Jusić, Tinka Milinović, Nermin Puškar and Igor Vukojević were the five names considered, but after several rounds of internal voting the panel decided that Deen, who was previously rumoured to be the Bosnian choice, should travel to

Istanbul in May. 32 songs were considered, but only six were publicly announced from which the winner was ultimately chosen by televote. A televote clearly identified "In The Disco" as the next Bosnian Eurovision entry and is, as the title suggests, a strong disco number strongly influenced by the Queen of Disco, Donna Summer. The song has been written and composed by Croatian singer Vesna Pisarovic.



1. "Pobjednik" 4689 / 4th
2. "Trebam Te" 1499 / 5th
3. "Pridi Bliže" - unplaced
4. "Spava Sarajevo" 5163 / 3rd
5. "Wanted To Make It" 5812 / 2nd
6. "In The Disco" 14015 / 1st

Croatia

Song : "You Are My Only One"
 Original Title : "Daješ Mi Krila"
 Performer : Ivan Mikulic



Dora 2004 was held in Opatija between 12th and 14th March. The first two evenings each selected six songs that went through to the final night, where 12 songs competed for the honour of representing Croatia. Ivan Mikulic received top scores from all jury regions and came second in the SMS vote. It is not surprising that this classic song did so well, with its romantically haunting melody and meaningful lyrics. It could easily qualify for the final night.

1st Semi Final 12 March 2004

1. "Zašto Pitaš"
(V Jirasek/D Vurdelja)
Chante 33 / 7th
2. "Gdje Snovi Pocinju"
(D Juranovic/S Berkovic/D Žagar)
Sandra 13 / =10th

3. "Umrla Bih Na Tvojim Rukama"
(M Buljan/N Nincevic)
Angie 12 / 12th
4. "Trebam Te"
(B Vincetic/D Devcic)
Azzuro 13 / =10th
5. "Nosiš Mi Proljece"
(M Tomasovic/N Korpar/D Mandic)
Renata Holi 30 / 8th
6. "Malo Pomalo"
(J Miani/N Cirjak/D Duvnjak-Darus)
Karma 62 / =2nd
7. "Diva"
(D Devcic/M Tetaric)
Andrea Cubric 23 / 9th
8. "Noah"
(T Huljic/V Huljic)
Andrea 62 / =2nd
9. "Ljubav Moja Si Ti"
(M Grdovic/I Ivanovic)
Mladen Grdovic 51 / 4th
10. "Pala Si Sa Neba"
(N Nincevic/M Buljan)
Alen Nižetic 43 / 6th
11. "Odjednom Ti"
(M Jaman/A Valo/I Prajo/A Kunštek)
Merita's & Massimo 50 / 5th
12. "Nema Razloga"
(J Houdek/B Djurdjevic)
Jacques Houdek 66 / 1st

2nd Semi Final 13 March 2004

1. "Kiša Ljubavi"
(E Stanic)
Rivers 29 / =8th
2. "Ostani"
(P Kosalec/T Preradovic)
Petra Kosalec 41 / 5th

- | | | | | | |
|-----|--|-----------------------|-----|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 3. | “Ne Placi”
(<i>V Bodegrajac</i>)
Vladimir Bodegrajac | 18 / 11 th | 3. | “Pala Si Sa Neba”
Alen Nižetic | 17 / 11 th |
| 4. | “Iluzija”
(<i>D Hojsak/M. Ergotic</i>)
Magnetic | 40 / 6 th | 4. | “Odjednom Ti”
Merita’s & Massimo | 32 / 7 th |
| 5. | “Tuga Dolazi Kasnije”
(<i>R Funcic</i>)
Tina Vukov & Matija Dedic Trio | 29 / =8 th | 5. | “Strastvena Žena”
Ivana Kindl | 27 / 8 th |
| 6. | “Strastvena Žena”
(<i>I Mazul/I Kindl/S Pasaric</i>)
Ivana Kindl | 51 / 4 th | 6. | “Ljubav Moja Si Ti”
Mladen Grdovic | 24 / 9 th |
| 7. | “Ti Si Moja Nesreca”
(<i>Z Tutic</i>)
Ivana Karamatic-Ilna | 22 / 10 th | 7. | “Još Samo Ovaj Put”
Ibrica Jusic | 49 / 5 th |
| 8. | “Sve”
(<i>P Martinjak/A Pecotic</i>)
P’EGGY | 6 / 12 th | 8. | “Prava Istina”
Lana | 41 / 6 th |
| 9. | “Prava Istina”
(<i>M Vlaovic/P Martinjak</i>)
Lana | 62 / 2 nd | 9. | “Noah”
Andrea | 67 / 2 nd |
| 10. | “Tvoje Lice”
(<i>M Vidovic/S Bastiancic</i>)
En Face | 36 / 7 th | 10. | “Malo Pomalo”
Karma | 56 / 3 rd |
| 11. | “Još Samo Ovaj Put”
(<i>M Vukelic/N Bratoš</i>)
Ibrica Jusic | 60 / 3 rd | 11. | “Nema Razloga”
Jacques Houdek | 55 / 4 th |
| 12. | “Daješ Mi Krila”
(<i>I Mikulic/D. Gruborovic</i>)
Ivan Mikulic | 72 / 1 st | 12. | “Daješ Mi Krila”
Ivan Mikulic | 71 / 1 st |

Reserve Songs

- Dora** **14 March 2004**
- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. | “Iluzija”
Magnetic | 19 / 10 th |
| 2. | “Ostani”
Petra Kosalec | 11 / 12 th |

- | | |
|----|---|
| 1. | “Gradovi Od Sna”
(<i>M Tomasovic/M Šimunovic/T Eterovic</i>)
Danijel Beni |
| 2. | “Ja Lomim Noc”
(<i>M Tomasovic/N Korpar/D Mandic</i>)
Maja Zeko |
| 3. | “Obecao Si Ljubav”
(<i>B Delic/S Dragoje/D Mandic</i>)
Branka Delic |
| 4. | “O Tome Cu Misliti Sutra”
(<i>D Kristic/D Vunic/A Pecotic</i>)
Marina Kristic |

Cyprus

Song : "Stronger Every Minute"
Performer : Lisa Andreas



After several years of commissioned entries, CyBC returned to a national final to select this year's Cypriot entry. The televised final was held on 17th February 2004. Among the ten songs taking part was one co-written by jungle boy Peter Andre and performed by United, a band made up of Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots. Many predicted this would win, but it was a strong ballad from the pen of former UK SFE writer, Mike Connaris, that stole the show. The young singer also lives in the UK and is currently in the final year at school. In addition to preparing for her GCSE's, she also faces the prospect of singing an emotive ballad on the international stage. She may even receive 12 points from the UK as well as Greece!

1. "Burning Fire"
(*Michalis Rousos*)
Mary Harki 58 / 6th

2. "I Need Love"
(*Paris Meletiou/Chrisanthos Chrisanthou*)
Mirti 90 / 3rd
3. "Millionaire"
(*George Platon*)
George Platon 10 / 10th
4. "Come To Me"
(*Michalis Pittas/Eleni & Andreas Skarpari*)
Eleni Skarpari 68 / 5th
5. "Tell Me"
(*Lia Ioannidi*)
Scorpion 26 / 9th
6. "Vision Of Dreams"
(*Lefki Stylianou*)
Lefki Stylianou 28 / 8th
7. "Cold"
(*Konstantinos Kountouros*)
Stefanos Georgiadis 36 / 7th
8. "Me"
(*Aristos Moschovakis/Peter Andre*)
United 76 / 4th
9. "Analyze Your Love"
(*Nikos Evagelou/Vagelis Evagelou*)
Georgia Panayiotou 92 / 2nd
10. "Stronger Every Minute"
(*Mike Connaris*)
Lisa Andreas 96 / 1st

Denmark

Song : "Shame On You"
Original Title : "Sig Det' Løgn"
Performer : Tomas Thordarson

Dansk Melodi Grand Prix was held in the city of Aarhus on 7th February 2004. The voting was in two stages. After all ten songs were performed five were eliminated from the contest. Those that

remained were then subject to final vote to choose the overall winner. Favourites Zididada were pushed in to second place by Tomas Thordarson and his Latino style song, "Sig Det' Løgn". As is now the custom for Denmark, their entry will be performed in English.



6. "Stjerner Blinker I Dit Navn"
(Jan Klausen)
Jan Klausen - eliminated
7. "Prinsesse"
(Jimmy Colding/Danny Linde)
Zididada 46 / **2nd**
8. "Kys Mig En Gang Til"
(Nanna Larsen)
Nanna Larsen - eliminated
9. "Hvor End Du Går Hen"
(Søren Poppe)
Ditlev 28 / **4th**
10. "Sig Det' Løgn"
(Ivar Lind Greiner)
Tomas Thordarson 60 / **1st**

Estonia

Song : "Tii"
Translation : "A Way"
Performers : Neioškõsõ

1. "Lykkelig I Nat"
(Mette Mathiesen)
Kåsi Thøgersen - eliminated
2. "Solens Sang"
(Helge Engelbrecht)
Neighbours 40 / **3rd**
3. "Mest Når Det Er Regn"
(Niels Drevsholt)
Petsi Tvørfoss 26 / **5th**
4. "Lonnie, Kom Nu Hjem"
(Henrik Askou/Regin Fuhlendorf)
Mathias Kryger - eliminated
5. "For Jeg Kan Li' Dig"
(Nanna Kalinka/Misha Popovic)
Claes Wegener - eliminated



Saturday, 7th February 2004 was also the evening on which Estonia chose their Eurovision song. Ten songs competed in what was a well-produced show and, for the first time in their 10 year Eurovision history, it was left to the Estonian public to choose their entry through a telephone vote. Unfortunately the final result was somewhat overshadowed by some

apparent irregularities with the telephone networks, but the winner was declared to be ultimately valid by ETV. "Tii" was performed in a local dialect, although some English is expected in Istanbul. The song itself is a mixture of modern pop and traditional folk. The winning group, Neioködö, is made up of Anu Taul, Triinu Taul, Astrid Böning, Diana Pöld, Kadri Uutma and Peeter Jögioja.

1. "Surrounded"
(*Ithaka-Maria/Tomi Rahula*)
Slobodan River 2080 / **3^d**
2. "Dance"
(*Vaiko Eplik*)
Ewert Sundja 640 / **7th**
3. "Turn the Tide"
(*Priit Pajusaar, Glen Pilvre/Maian Kärmas*)
Zone & Cardinals 581 / **8th**
4. "Whatever You Say"
(*Pearu Paulus/Ilmar Laisaar/Alar Kotkas/Jana Hallas*)
Charlene 759 / **6th**
5. "I Wanna Stay"
(*Raid Liiver*)
Airi Ojames 393 / **9th**
6. "Whenever Blue"
(*Fred Krieger*)
Hatuna & Sofia Rubina 187 / **10th**
7. "Homme"
(*Maarja-Liis Ilus*)
Maarja 1320 / **4th**
8. "Tii"
(*Priit Pajusaar/Glen Pilvre/Aapo Ilves*)
Neioködö 8696 / **1st**
9. "Beautiful Inside"
(*Kerli Kõiv/Timo Vendt/Lauri Laubre*)
Kerli 3638 / **2nd**

10. "I'll Give You a Mountain"
(*Henrik Sethsson/Stig Lindell*)
Charizma 1157 / **5th**

Finland

Song : "Takes 2 To Tango"
Performer : Jari Sillanpää



Two semi finals, from which six songs were chosen from each, preceded Euroviisut 2004 held on Saturday, 24th January at the Tampero Talo. After the 12 songs had been performed an expert jury eliminated six songs, leaving the public to choose their song for Istanbul from those that remained. Jari Sillanpää previously came second in the 1998 Finnish final and now, six years later, wins the opportunity to represent his homeland. "Takes 2 To Tango" has received mixed acclaim, but Jari provides a powerful performance of a song that could easily find itself on the West End or Broadway stage. This will be the first song of 2004, drawn to open the qualifying round on 12th May.

1st Semi Final 16 January 2004

1. "Dance My Heart Away"
(*Toni Nygård*)
Heidi Kyrö & Just - qualified

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>2. "I Can't Stop Loving You"
(Thomas G:son)
Kirsi Ranto - eliminated</p> <p>3. "What If"
(Henrik Sethsson/Magnus Funemyr)
Karoliina Kallio - eliminated</p> <p>4. "Mouse In The Misery"
(Mika Koski/Tuulikki Kuittinen)
Komissio - eliminated</p> <p>5. "A Little Crazy"
(Janne Hyöty/Sofie Björkgren-Näse)
Anna Stenlund - qualified</p> <p>6. "You Don't Need To Go"
(Christian Antblad/Tommy Denander)
Iina & Gary - qualified</p> <p>7. "I Don't Need To Say"
(Jimmy Westerlund/Fredrik Furu/Geir Rönning)
Geir Rönning - qualified</p> <p>8. "Higher Ground"
(Nalle Ahlstedt)
Sheidi - eliminated</p> <p>9. "Takes 2 To Tango"
(Mika Toivanen/Jari Sillanpää)
Jari Sillanpää - qualified</p> <p>10. "Toarie"
(Riikka Toari/Ville Laaksonen)
Riikka - qualified</p> | <p>4. "Rain On Water"
(Nalle Ahlstedt/M.O. Charles)
Johanna Försti - eliminated</p> <p>5. "Like Believers Do"
(Jade Eli/Mats Tärnfors/Janne Hyöty)
Jonna K - qualified</p> <p>6. "One Year Of Love"
(Space Child)
Jan Mikael - eliminated</p> <p>7. "Eleventh Hour"
(Tommy Lydell/Lotta Ahlin)
Susan Sonntag - qualified</p> <p>8. "Reason"
(J-P. Järvinen)
Mira - eliminated</p> <p>9. "Seven Times Seven"
(Jukka Karppinen)
Danny & D'Voices - qualified</p> <p>10. "My Everlasting"
(Janne Hyöty/Mirella Pendolin)
Mirella - eliminated</p> |
|--|--|

Grand Final 24 January 2004

2nd Semi Final 17 January 2004

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1. "Can't Stop Loving You"
(Patrick Linman/Mats Persson)
Patrick Linman - qualified</p> <p>2. "Till The End Of Time"
(Henrik Sethsson/Thomas G:son)
Arja Koriseva - qualified</p> <p>3. "Should I Run, Should I Hide"
(Peter Svanström/Tage Borgmästers)
Sonja Bishop - qualified</p> | <p>1. "Till The End Of Time"
Arja Koriseva - eliminated</p> <p>2. "A Little Crazy"
Anna Stenlund 23.7% / 2nd</p> <p>3. "Can't Stop Loving You"
Patrick Linman - eliminated</p> <p>4. "You Don't Need To Go"
Iina & Gary 5.4% / 6th</p> <p>5. "Like Believers Do"
Jonna K 11.7% / 4th</p> <p>6. "I Don't Need To Say"
Geir Rönning 10.3% / 5th</p> |
|--|---|

7. "Eleventh Hour"
Susan Sonntag - eliminated
8. "Toarie"
Riikka 13.6% / 3rd
9. "Takes 2 To Tango"
Jari Sillanpää 35.3% / 1st
10. "Dance My Heart Away"
Heidi Kyrö & Just - eliminated
11. "Should I Run, Should I Hide"
Sonja Biskop - eliminated
12. "Seven Times Seven"
Danny & D'Voices - eliminated

"Te Dire Que Je T'attends" reached the number two spot in the French charts and achieved similar success in Belgium. Jonatan is 18 years old, born in Belgium (Wallonia), but also has Spanish origins that could help him achieve a high result on 15th May! Two songs were submitted to France 3, resulting in the initial choice of "Laissez-Moi Le Temps". However, after further consideration this was changed in preference to the alternative song provided. "A Chaque Pas" has been co-written by Jonatan Cerrada, Ben 'Jammin' Robbins and Steve Balsamo. A tiny part of this balladic song will be performed in Spanish!

France

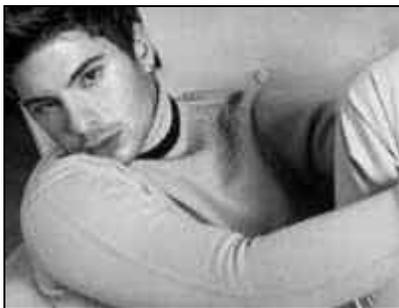
Song : "A Chaque Pas"
 Translation : "Every Step"
 Performer : Jonatan Cerrada



Following the trend of recent years, the French song and singer were both chosen internally. Jonatan Cerrada won the first edition of the TV contest "A La Recherche De La Nouvelel Star", this being the French version of 'Pop Idol'. His very first single, "Je Voulais

FYR Macedonia

Song : "Life Is ..."
 Original Title : "Angel Si Ti"
 Performer : Tose Proevski



Appointed by the Macedonian National TV and Radio Company, Tose Proevski performed a varied selection of potential entries at Skopje's Universal Hall on 14th February 2004. Eight songs were chosen for the final, from which the winner was selected by televoting. "Angel Si Ti" is ethnic in style and may not appeal to everyone, but Tose has already achieved success throughout the Balkans and

Mediterranean region that could stand him in good stead at Eurovision.

1. "Daleku Od Mene"
(*Zorica Katrandžiska*)
183 / **2nd**
2. "Egzoticen Son"
(*Aleksandar Čekredži/Maja Pavlovska*)
0 / **8th**
3. "Ljubena"
(*Simon Trpčevski/Jovan Trpčevski*)
38 / **7th**
4. "Zoshto Otide"
(*Blažo Temelkov*)
39 / **6th**
5. "Angel Si Ti"
(*Jovan Jovanov*)
256 / **1st**
6. "Sinooka, Bosonoga"
(*Kire Kostov/Mirjana Danilovska*)
75 / **4th**
7. "Parce Od Evropa"
(*Goran Alački/Maja Pavlovska*)
44 / **5th**
8. "Go Lazam Sekoj Nov Refren"
(*Ljupčo Mirkovski/Ognene Nedelkovski*)
126 / **3rd**

Germany

Song : "Can't Wait Until Tonight"
Performer : Max

Supported by major record labels in association with ARD (German Television) "Countdown" was replaced by a new show entitled "Germany 12 Points!". The event was televised live from Berlin on 19th March 2004. Ten songs took part, one of which was a wildcard selected purely through record

sales. A second wildcard failed to achieve selection on the same basis. With singer, songwriter and popular TV presenter Stefan Raab behind the successful wild card, it was no surprise that this was one of the top two songs chosen for a second vote! Max, aka Maximilian Mutzke, easily won, obtaining 92% of the vote compared to 8% gained by early favourites, Scooter. It was a double celebration for Stefan and Max, as the song had also reached number one in the German charts and is now a strong contender for the Eurovision top spot. Far removed from Stefan's own appearance in 2000, the song and style is reminiscent of Dorset crooner, Gordon Haskell.



1. "Undone"
(*David Jost/Dave Roth*)
Patrick Nuo
2. "Hungriges Herz"
(*Mieze/G Spies*)
Mia
3. "Liebe"
(*Moses Pelham/Martin Haas*)
Sabrina Setlur

4. "Der Letzte Stern"
(Mike Michaels/MM Dollar/Mark Tabak/Deema)
Overground
5. "Ich Schenk' Dir Mein Herz"
(Jens Langbein/Robert Schulte Hemming/Jörn Christof Heilbut/Jan-Philipp Kelber)
Tina Frank
6. "Can't Wait Until Tonight"
(Stefan Raab)
Max 92% / 1st
7. "Dancing With The Rebels"
(WestBam/Afrika Islam/Professor Klaus)
WestBam
8. "Höher"
(A C Boutsen/Laith Al-Deen/Götz von Sydow)
Laith Al-Deen
9. "Silent Tears"
(Wonderwall)
Wonderwall
10. "Jigga Jigga!"
(H P Baxxter/Rick J Jordan/Jay Frog/Jens Thele)
Scooter 8% / 2nd

Second Wildcard

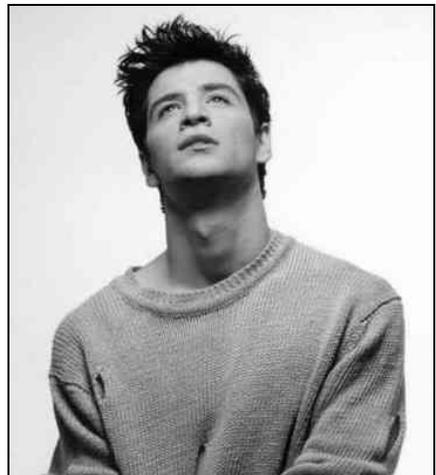
1. "Right Here"
(Stephan Zeh/Leslie Mandoki)
Masha

Greece

Song : "Shake It"
Performer : Sakis Rouvas

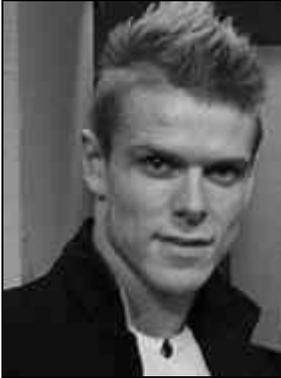
Despite Antique's success in 2001, ERT decided to revive Greek interest in Eurovision by staging a 'Pop Idol' type show entitled "Eurostar Vodafon". The

show commenced on 5th December 2003 and began with a series of auditions that selected 36 potential entrants, from which just nine competed in the final television series. When things began in earnest, the viewing public voted off one unlucky singer each week until three remained. These three competed in a special television show broadcast on 12th March during which an expert jury combined with a national televote chose Apostolos Psychramis as the Greek singer for 2004. However, in an unexpected twist the name of popular singer Sakis Rouvas was thrown into the equation. Although conflicting explanations were given, it appeared that the appointed songwriters were unhappy with the Eurostar choice. Consequently, ERT cancelled the show that would feature three songs performed by Apostolos Psychramis and announced that Sakis Rouvas would sing "Shake It", written by Nektarios Tirakis and composed by Nikos Terziz. It is understood that this song was one of the three songs originally submitted. Poor Apostolos still makes it to the Eurovision stage though, albeit as a backing singer.



Iceland

Song : "Heaven"
Performer : Jónsi



After several delays and even more rumours, RUV announced their choice for Istanbul on Monday, 9th February 2004. Jón Jósep Snjæbjörnsson, also known as Jónsi, was the lead singer of one of Iceland's most popular bands, "Í Svörtum Fötum", and has been chosen to represent his country at the Eurovision Song Contest. "Heaven", which was written just a few weeks too late for inclusion in the 2003 Icelandic final, is the work of songwriting team Sveinn Rúnar Sigurðsson and Magnús Þór Sigmundsson.

Ireland

Song : "If The World Stops Turning"
Performer : Chris Doran

Following months of auditions and weeks of eliminations, 'You're A Star 2' finally reached its conclusion on 7th March 2004. One week earlier three songs had been recorded by the remaining finalists and presented to the Irish public. "Summer Rain" was the

first of these to be eliminated, leaving the remaining two to go head to head in Dublin's Helix Theatre. Only one of these songs would eventually win the right to represent the Emerald Isle, and that song was to be "If The World Stops Turning" performed by 23 year old Chris Doran and co-written by popular Westlife singer, Bryan McFadden. Within 48 hours of the result, Bryan announced that he was quitting the popular Irish boyband to spend more time with his family. No doubt songwriting will also be a major part of his future life following 'You're A Star 2'.



1. "Losing You"
(Sinead McNally)
James Kilbane **2nd**
2. "If The World Stops Turning"
(Bryan McFadden/Jonathan Shorten)
Chris Doran **1st**
3. "Summer Rain"
(Brendan McCarthy/Niall Mooney)
Jean Elliott **3rd**

The remaining finalists, in order of elimination, were : Gary Philbin; Colin Fahy; Cladach; Philip Noone; Ruth Cullen; Phil Coulter & Gill Blacque; Gary O'Malley; Laura Brophy; Final Four; and George Murphy.

Israel

Song : "Le'ha'amin"
 Translation : "To Have A Dream"
 Performer : David D'Or



Appointed by the Israeli Broadcasting Authority, David D'Or presented four songs to the public on 5th Febuary 2004. A special jury that included Gali Atari (IL79) and Lior Narkis (IL03) were responsible for 40% of the vote, the remaining 60% being left to the Israeli public. "Leha'amin" received 66% of viewers vote (V) and 60% from the jurors (J). The song, written and composed by David, will be performed in Hebrew and English.

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|
| 1. "Freedom" | 18% (V) 0% (J) | 3rd |
| 2. "Bo'u Mal'achim" | 12% (V) 40% (J) | 2nd |
| 3. "Yamim Tovim" | 4% (V) 0% (J) | 4th |
| 4. "Leha'amin" | 66% (V) 60% (J) | 1st |

Latvia

Song : "Dziesma Par Laimi"
 Translation : "A Song Of Happiness"
 Performers : Fomins & Kleins



Following the disappointment of a low result on home territory, Latvia were anxious to prove their mark on Eurovision once again. The result was a ten song final broadcast on the night of 28th February 2004. Once all songs had been performed, seven were eliminated leaving the remaining three to go forward to a final televote that decided the eventual winner. Fomins & Kleins are established singers in Latvia, known for their folk rock style.

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. "Ready"
(Lauris Reiniks) | 4.element | - eliminated |
| 2. "Dziesma Par Laimi"
(Guntars Racs/Tomass Kleins) | Fomins & Kleins | 42197 / 1st |
| 3. "Like A Star"
(Olegs Borosnevs/Deniss Timcuks) | Tatjana Timcuka | 18879 / 3rd |
| 4. "Angel's Song"
(Kristine Broka/Daiga Rutenberga) | Kristine Broka & Sanita Zapacka | - eliminated |

5. "Fly Away With You"
(*Janis Stibelis*)
Aija Vitolina - eliminated
6. "Not That Everyday Girl"
(*Martins Freimanis*)
Chilly - eliminated
7. "Runaway"
(*Andris Kivics*)
Z-Scars - eliminated
8. "We Share The Sun"
(*Valters Sprudz/Janis Guza*)
Johnny Salamander & Meldra
37839 / 2nd
9. "All You Know"
(*C-Stones*)
C-Stones - eliminated
10. "Let Me Go"
(*Natalija Rjumina*)
Rain - eliminated

Reserve Songs

1. "Disco Ice"
Finally Switched On
2. "Hush"
Elina Oruba, Sarmite Jerane &
Shons Ani
3. "Come With Me"
Ivars Petersons

Lithuania

Song : "What's Happened
To Your Love?"

Performers : Linas & Simona

A marathon selection process took place in Lithuania with no less than six semi-finals preceding the national final. Although all performers were expected to be Lithuanian, songwriters came

from several other countries including Sweden and Greece. The top three songs from from the first five semi finals won a place in the grand final held on 14th February, together with the top two from the sixth and a wildcard. Lithuanian Television received an unprecedented response to the show that led to technical difficulties during the voting process, which was an equal combination of televoting and traditional jurors. Furthermore, early favourites that included Amberlife, B'Avarija and Eva found themselves losing to surprise winners Linas & Simona and their Mediterranean sounding song. The situation was not helped when the actual televotes, which had been converted to ESC scoring, were disclosed. Amberlife had received 5683 votes compared to the winner with just 1893. Clearly the public choice, the former found themselves pushed into fourth place after receiving just two votes from the jury.



1st Semi Final 3 January 2004

1. "You Don't Know"
in Culto 141 / 5th
2. "Come To The World"
Irina Trofimova & Bugs Band
50 / 8th

3. "Just Be My Star"
KES 290 / **3rd**
4. "Why Are You The One?"
No One 41 / **9th**
5. "Diena Ir Nakta"
Dinamika 88 / **7th**
6. "Just Be"
Relanium 304 / **2nd**
7. "4 You"
Dvyniai 201 / **4th**
8. "Heart Invader"
Mushkitakta 103 / **6th**
9. "Over"
Rûta Dèiogolovaite 1602 / **1st**

2nd Semi Final 10 January 2004

1. "Brave Step"
Artûras Kriaueiûnas & Bugs Band
191 / **5th**
2. "No More"
Lawry 333 / **3rd**
3. "New Day"
Graffiti 45 / **8th**
4. "Ei, Praeivi"
Audronë Girkontaitë 22 / **9th**
5. "Follow"
Colder 290 / **4th**
6. "That's What I Want"
Road Band 147 / **7th**
7. "How About You?"
Taja & Merlin 304 / **2nd**
8. "On The Last Night"
Ieva Breivyte 174 / **6th**

9. "A Cup Of Love"
Mantas 784 / **1st**

3rd Semi Final 17 January 2004

1. "Love Is"
SATI 155 / **7th**
2. "If You Can Fly"
Weekends 84 / **8th**
3. "Stobidubap"
Saulës Kliodas 561 / **2nd**
4. "Sleeping"
Mad Mad Moon 244 / **6th**
5. "Waiting"
Net Profit 55 / **9th**
6. "Wider Space"
N.E.O. 503 / **3rd**
7. "Look Into My Eyes"
V.I.P. 392 / **4th**
8. "Say Goodbye"
Fate 369 / **5th**
9. "What's Happened To Your Love"
Linás & Simona 1182 / **1st**

4th Semi Final 24 January 2004

1. "I Do, I Do"
Geltona 732 / **4th**
2. "The Girl From Million"
Ricardas Vitkus 103 / **6th**
3. "Amor (Te Quiero Aqui)"
Aistë Pilvelyte 878 / **3rd**
4. "Mes Skrendam"
Torres 25 / **9th**
5. "Like Falling Rain"
Swajus 84 / **7th**

6. "Hey Hey Golden Ray"
Edmundas Kučinsko 2618 / **1st**
7. "Freedom Is Near"
Lyga 197 / **5th**
8. "Aš Tavyje"
Soft Rain 28 / **8th**
9. "Be My Baby"
Eva 900 / **2nd**

5th Semi Final 31 January 2004

1. "Taste Of Love"
Dreams 420 / **6th**
2. "Deep In My Heart"
Indraya 1080 / **3rd**
3. "He Forgot That I'm His Baby"
Rasa Kaušiušė 1564 / **2nd**
4. "Keep Your Faith"
Artas 579 / **4th**
5. "A Music's World"
Cappella 201 / **9th**
6. "Flying People"
Rūta Lukodevičiūtė 572 / **5th**
7. "Together"
Tequila For You 304 / **8th**
8. "In Your Eyes"
Amberlife 10219 / **1st**
9. "Vejas"
Agnieška 345 / **7th**

6th Semi Final 7 February 2004

1. "I Can"
Donalda 254 / **4th**
2. "You Like"
Bracelet 72 / **6th**

3. "Song About You And Me"
Violeta Riaubiškytės 842 / **2nd**
4. "Stay Away"
Sugarfree 227 / **5th**
5. "Back In Europe"
Atika 304 / **3rd**
6. "I Know"
B'Avarija 1341 / **1st**
7. "Būk Arti
M T 35 / **7th**

Withdrawn

1. "Skrydis"
Humanoidai & H Grigorian
2. "Vėl"
Toys

Grand Final 14 February 2004

1. "I Do, I Do"
(Laimono Žiulpos)
Geltona
167 / 0 (T) 0 (J) **13th**
2. "He Forgot That I'm His Baby"
(Rasa Kaušiušė/L. Rimšos/J. Krivicko)
Rasa Kaušiušė
63 / 0 (T) 3 (J) **8th**
3. "No More"
(Raigardo Tautkaus/Lawry)
Lawry
38 / 0 (T) 0 (J) **18th**
4. "Wider Space"
(Raigardo Tautkaus/Tom Chadar)
N.E.O.
185 / 1 (T) 0 (J) **11th**
5. "Amor (Te Quiero Aqui)"
(Carlos Coelho/Nelson Silva/Marjorie)
Aistė Pilvelytė
63 / 0 (T) 1 (J) **12th**

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|--|---|
| <p>6. "Just Be"
(<i>Lauros Čepukaitės</i>)
Relanium
103 / 0 (T) 0 (J) 15th</p> | <p>15. "Hey Hey Golden Ray"
(<i>Edmundo Kučinsko/Tautvydos Marcinkevičiūtės</i>)
Edmundas Kučinsko
3425 / 10 (T) 8 (J) 3rd</p> |
| <p>7. "What's Happened To Your Love?"
(<i>Lino Adomaičio/Michail Antonio/Camden-MS</i>)
Linās & Simona
1893 / 8 (T) 10 (J) 1st</p> | <p>16. "Song About You And Me"
(<i>Aurelijaus Ščiukos/Violetos Riaubiškytės</i>)
Violeta Riaubiškytės
372 / 5 (T) 5 (J) 6th</p> |
| <p>8. "I Know"
(<i>Deivido Zvonkaus</i>)
B'Avarija
997 / 7 (T) 7 (J) 5th</p> | <p>17. "Stobidubap"
(<i>Saulės Kliošas</i>)
Saulės Kliošas
348 / 4 (T) 6 (J) 7th</p> |
| <p>9. "Just Be My Star"
(<i>Kęstučio Navicko</i>)
KES
47 / 0 (T) 0 (J) 17th</p> | <p>18. "A Cup Of Love"
(<i>Vaiko Eplik</i>)
Mantas
281 / 3 (T) 4 (J) 9th</p> |
| <p>10. "Over"
(<i>Timo Vendt/Reno Hekkonens/Lauri Laubre</i>)
Rûta Dèiogolovaite
636 / 6 (T) 12 (J) 2nd</p> | <p style="text-align: center;">Malta</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Song : "On Again, Off Again"
Performers : Julie & Ludwig</p> |
| <p>11. "Deep In My Heart"
(<i>Indrės Zaleskytės</i>)
Indraya
62 / 0 (T) 0 (J) 16th</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"></p> |
| <p>12. "How About You?"
(<i>Rodiono Kolomino/Mike Levin</i>)
Taja & Merlin
132 / 0 (T) 0 (J) 14th</p> | <p>A total of 36 songs were shortlisted for consideration as the Maltese entry, 16 of which were chosen to take part in a two part televised final. As usual the majority of songwriters have previously taken part in Malta's Song for Europe and they were joined by an array of popular performers including Fabrizio Faniello, Debbie Scerri and Georgina. The fabulous Fab was tipped to win and</p> |
| <p>13. "Be My Baby"
(<i>Georgios Kalpakidis</i>)
Eva
278 / 2 (T) 0 (J) 10th</p> | |
| <p>14. "In Your Eyes"
(<i>Bobby Ljunggren/Marcos Ubeda/William Butt</i>)
Amberlife
5683 / 12 (T) 2 (J) 4th</p> | |

represent his country for a second time, but surprise winners Julie & Ludwig stole the show with a rather unusual and slightly dated song written by the people behind Ira Losco's "7th Wonder" which came second in 2002. Instantly dismissed by many, the song does have a 'love it or hate it' element about it and could be the surprise winner of 2004. It's also been rearranged by Ralph Siegel!

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| <p>1. "Love Moves The World"
<i>(Eugenio Schembri/Doris Chetcuti)</i>
Leontine 47 / 13th</p> <p>2. "24/7"
<i>(Mark Spiteri/Lucas/Deo Grech)</i>
Andreana 63 / 8th</p> <p>3. "Dying To Be Free"
<i>(Rita Pace)</i>
Rita Pace 23 / 16th</p> <p>4. "Give Me One More Night"
<i>(Paul Abela/Roger Tirazona)</i>
Roger Tirazona 7 / 12th</p> <p>5. "One Way Love"
<i>(Rene' Mamo/Joe Julian Farrugia)</i>
Fiona 49 / 9th</p> <p>6. "A Simple Wish"
<i>(Charlene Grima/Deo Grech)</i>
Natasha & Charlene 47 / 11th</p> <p>7. "On Again, Off Again"
<i>(Philip Vella/Gerard James Borg)</i>
Julie & Ludwig 139 / 1st</p> <p>8. "Through All My Life"
<i>(Paul Giordimaina/Fleur Balzan)</i>
Eleonor Cassar 77 / 7th</p> <p>9. "Tango 4 Two"
<i>(Philip Vella/Gerard J. Borg)</i>
Keith Camilleri 89 / 6th</p> | <p>10. "Close To My Heart"
<i>(Paul Abela/Roger Tirazona)</i>
Georgina 38 / 15th</p> <p>11. "Get Free"
<i>(Andrew Zammit/Debbie Scerri)</i>
Debbie Scerri feat. Prodigal Sons 42 / 14th</p> <p>12. "It's A Wonderful Life"
<i>(Ralf Siegel/John O'Flynn)</i>
Ali & Lis 106 / 5th</p> <p>13. "Take A Look"
<i>(Paul Giordimaina/Fleur Balzan)</i>
Olivia Lewis 134 / 2nd</p> <p>14. "Can't Give Me Love"
<i>(Paul Abela/Georgina)</i>
Marvic Lewis 48 / 10th</p> <p>15. "You're On My Mind"
<i>(Philip Vella/Joe Chircop)</i>
Lawrence Gray 107 / 4th</p> <p>16. "Did I Ever Tell You"
<i>(Paul Abela/Georgina)</i>
Fabrizio Faniello 112 / 3rd</p> |
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Monaco

Song : "Notre Planète"
Translation : "Our Planet"
Performer : Maryon

Returning after a 25 year self imposed absence, Monaco undertook an internal selection to choose their singer for Eurovision. More than 500 female soloists, the only criteria imposed, applied to organizers TMC during the second half of 2003. On 21st February 2004 just 21 were shortlisted and whittled down until just four remained. 16 year old Maryon was then chosen as the successful candidate and will now sing an environmentally friendly song

written and composed by Philippe Bosco. The entry has the personal support of Prince Albert of Monaco. Maryon's story was subsequently documented in a special programme broadcast on 19th March.



Netherlands

Song : "Without You"
Performers: Reunion



On 22nd February 2004 Amsterdam's Pepsi Stage Theatre concluded the

Dutch search for their latest Eurovision entry. The overall process featured four semi-finals, a fifth wildcard final of runners up and the grand Nationaal Songfestival. The voting process was similar to that used in previous years, combining jury votes and televoting percentages. A slow love song sung by a male duo in a male dominated contest could, unfortunately, go unnoticed by the televoters.

1st Semi Final 22 January 2004

1. "She'll Take Your Breath Away"
(Alan Michael/Charly)
Charly 31 / 10% / 3rd
2. "De Dag Na De Dertiende"
(Arjen Tijs)
Arjen & Margriet 4 / 3% / 6th
3. "Without You"
(Ed & Angeline van Otterdijk)
Reunion 54 / 49% / 1st
4. "Bump!"
(Rich Ascroft)
Hot Black Stuff 12 / 3% / 5th
5. "The Story Of My Life"
(Johnny Logan)
Arno Kolenbrander 16 / 14% / 4th
6. "Alright"
(Babette Labeij/A Bar-Pereg, Dimitri Veltkamp)
Babette Labeij 48 / 21% / 2nd

2nd Semi Final 29 January 2004

1. "Butterfly"
(Kees Koedoeder)
Kaysee 0 / 4% / 6th
2. "Love Me, Don't Leave Me"
(Robin Albers/William Jansen/Boy Hagemann)
William 10 / 5% / 5th

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|--|---|
| <p>3. "Celeste"
(Erik Dikeb)
Bas & Joël 26 / 30% / 4th</p> <p>4. "Tell Me Why"
(Mandy Gruijters/Tim Janssens)
Mandy 29 / 5% / 3rd</p> <p>5. "Love Me"
(Judith Jobse)
Judith Jobse 46 / 45% / 2nd</p> <p>6. "For You And Me"
(Emiel Pijnaker)
Yellow Pearl 54 / 11% / 1st</p> | <p>2. "Licht In Jouw Ogen"
(Frederique Spigt/Jan van der Mey)
Camp Girls 36 / 16% / 3rd</p> <p>3. "One Of A Kind"
(Ruud Mulder)
Triple 10's 2 / 12% / 5th</p> <p>4. "Heart Of Stone"
(Kees Patijn)
Anja Wessels 49 / 21% / 2nd</p> <p>5. "Bring Back The Music"
(Han Epskamp)
Mai Tai 31 / 7% / 6th</p> |
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3rd Semi Final 5 February 2004

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|--|--|
| <p>1. "Ritornero"
(Arsenio Mangieri/Ed Schimscheimer)
Jorge Castro 29 / 16% / 3rd</p> | <p>6. "Show Me The Love"
(Ton/Dijkman/Ferry van Leeuwen/Giovanni Caminita)
Cherwin 31 / 29% / 1st</p> |
|--|--|

Wildcard Final 19 February 2004

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|---|---|
| <p>2. "Change"
(Leonie Kuizenga/Jeremy Ebell)
Andre Kuik 23 / 16% / 5th</p> <p>3. "The Power Of An Angel"
(Romeo Samuel/Sietse Bakker)
Mary Amora 6 / 7% / 6th</p> <p>4. "On A Wing And A Prayer"
(Bruce R F Smith/Christan Grotenbreg)
Adriana Romeijn 54 / 15% / 1st</p> <p>5. "Heimwee"
(Varna Springer)
Varna Springer 28 / 11% / 4th</p> <p>6. "Mississippi Miss"
(Bruce Smith/Paul Mayer)
Suzy & The Hirollers 25 / 35% / 2nd</p> | <p>1. "Tell Me Why"
Mandy 48 / 9% / 3rd</p> <p>2. "Celeste"
Bas & Joël 36 / 27% / 2nd</p> <p>3. "Licht In Jouw Ogen"
Camp Girls 43 / 13% / 4th</p> <p>4. "The Story Of My Life"
Arno Kolenbrander 14 / 9% / 5th</p> <p>5. "Change"
Andre Kuik 6 / 10% / 6th</p> <p>6. "She'll Take Your Breath Away"
Charly 51 / 32% / 1st</p> |
|---|---|

Songfestival 22 February 2004

4th Semi Final 12 February 2004

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|---|---|
| <p>1. "Here's To The Summer"
(Robbert van Ark/Sven Jansen)
Jaco van der Steen 16 / 15% / 4th</p> | <p>1. "Without You"
Reunion 60 / 19% / 1st</p> <p>2. "Alright"
Babette Labeij 14 / 2% / 8th</p> |
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|-----|--------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|---|
| 3. | "On A Wing And A Prayer" | Adriana Romeijn | 19 / 3% / 7 th | <p>seen by some to be a controversial move, only 11 songs were performed live. Arlene Wilkes was in Chicago and a recorded version of her entry was televised. After the first round of voting, the top four songs progressed to a super Melodi Grand Prix from which 27 year old Knut Anders Sørum emerged as the overall victor. "High" is an exceptionally strong uptempo ballad that is likely to score very well on the final night, Norway having qualified following their fourth place success of 2003.</p> |
| 4. | "Mississippi Miss" | Suzy & The Hirollers | 25 / 4% / 4 th | |
| 5. | "Love Me" | Judith Jobse | 41 / 15% / 2 nd | |
| 6. | "For You And Me" | Yellow Pearl | 23 / 3% / 6 th | |
| 7. | "She'll Take Your Breath Away" | Charly | 25 / 13% / 5 th | |
| 8. | "Celeste" | Bas & Joël | 11 / 18% / 9 th | |
| 9. | "Heart Of Stone" | Anja Wessels | 29 / 21% / 3 rd | |
| 10. | "Show Me The Love" | Cherwin | 8 / 2% / 10 th | |

Norway

Song : "High"

Performers : Knut Anders Sørum



12 songs competed in the Norwegian final that was held on 6th March 2004. The show was varied but, in what was

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|----|--------------------------|--|-----------------|---|
| 1. | "I Don't Understand Her" | (Aslak Johnsen/Benjamin Sletten/Anders Bjørknes) | Aslak Johnsen | 19 / 7 th |
| 2. | "The Way I Feel" | (Maria Moe/Kyrre Fritzner) | Maria Moe | 10 / 10 th |
| 3. | "Crazy Things" | (Wig Wam) | Wig Wam | 34 / 4 th
48820 / 3 rd |
| 4. | "Mr. Brown" | (Ivan Jones/Maxim Popov) | Ja-Da | 31 / 5 th |
| 5. | "1001 Nights" | (David Clewett/Ivar Lisinski) | Rebecca | 41 / 3 rd
46675 / 4 th |
| 6. | "Crying" | (Arne Hovda/Per Kristian Ottestad) | Christina Hovda | 0 / =11 th |
| 7. | "What Do You Think I Am" | (Tristande la Villier/Kim Bergseth) | Dilsa Calmili | 16 / 8 th |
| 8. | "See The World" | (Dag Lauvland) | Svein Lindland | 30 / 6 th |

9. "Sunshine"
(Michael Lundh)
Malin Schavenius 0 / **=11th**
10. "High"
(Thomas Thörnholm/Danne Attlerud)
Knut Anders Sørum 50 / **1st**
82428 / **1st**
11. "I Knock On Wood"
(Glenn Gulli/Åsmund Ruud)
Lisa Marie 11 / **9th**
12. "This Is Where You Got It From"
(Torbjörn Wassenus/Claes
Andreasson)
Arlene Wilkes 48 / **2nd**
56281 / **1st**

Poland

Song : "Love Song"
Performers : Blue Café



It's ten years since Poland made their Eurovision debut, so it was no coincidence that Eurowizja 2004 held on 24th January also looked back at their successes to date. There was even a live link with the Finnish final, held on the same evening, in recognition of the fact that Finland provided Poland with their first ever votes on the Eurovision scoreboard! A combination of televoting and SMS decided the ultimate winner, although

this was closely fought between the top three acts. Blue Café are the lucky ones who now travel to Turkey and already have six years of performing together behind them. However, the band has eight members so two will have to stay at home, or at least off stage, to satisfy EBU regulations!

1. "Dreaming About You"
(Robert Kalicki/Krzysztof Czub/Artur Ambroziak)
Offside 5532 / **12th**
2. "Nie Uwierze"
(Ken Rose/Kip Winger/Małgorzata Ostrowska)
Małgorzata 1431 / **15th**
3. "All My Senses"
(Goya/Magdalena Wójcik)
Goya 24566 / **6th**
4. "Let Me Introduce"
(Kasia Klich)
Kasia Klich 15090 / **8th**
5. "Easy Money"
(Jacek Adamczyk)
Planeta 9648 / **9th**
6. "Freedom"
(Marek Piotrowski/Bartek Królik/Natalia Przybysz)
SiStars 22107 / **7th**
7. "Pocztówka Z Avignonu"
(Romuald Lipko/Andrzej Mogielnicki)
Janusz Radek 28607 / **5th**
8. "Labyrinth Of Life"
(Golden Life/Iwona Turbiar)
Golden Life 6690 / **11th**
9. "Love Song"
(Paweł Rurak-Sokal/Tatiana Okupnik)
Blue Café 57125 / **1st**

10. "Julia, Tak Na Imiê Mam"
(Adam Konkol/Anna Wyszconi)
Lzy 54652 / **2nd**
11. "I'm Still Alive"
(Samuel Engh/Leif Sundin/Daniel Boquist/Mark Tysper)
Alex 30952 / **4th**
12. "Stay"
(Krzysztof Kiljański)
Krzysztof Kiljański 7835 / **10th**
13. "Mogê Dzis"
(Indigo & Edyta Warszawska)
Indigo 2008 / **14th**
14. "Sen Kowalskiego"
(Kowalski/Robert Brunne)
Kowalski 3697 / **13th**
15. "Nick Of Time"
(Marcin Rozynek)
Marcin Rozynek 51736 / **3rd**

Portugal

Song : "Foi Magia"
Translation : "It Was Magic"
Performers : Sofia



Attempting a new and different way to select the Portuguese entry, 'Operação Triunfo' commenced during the autumn of 2003. 16 hopeful singers were introduced to the viewing public, with one unlucky person being voted off each week. Eventually three finalists each presented potential Eurovision songs from which one was chosen by televoting to represent Portugal in Turkey. Sofia has proven to be a popular choice with the Portuguese public and is a strong performer, but Portugal has rarely done well at Eurovision – despite some very good songs over the years – and it remains to be seen how "Foi Magia" will be received on the international stage.

1. "Caminhos Singelos"
(Mucio Sá/Rosete Caixinha)
Francisco 31003 / **3rd**
2. "Novo E Clássico"
(Américo Faria)
Gonçalo 31899 / **2nd**
3. "Foi Magia"
(Paulo Neves)
Sofia 39072 / **1st**

The remaining 13 singers in order of elimination were : Vânia; Miguel; Petra; Nuno; Aline; Rita; Dino; Ludgero; Cati; André; Katiliana; Fábria; and Pedro;

Romania

Song : "I Admit"
Performer : Sanda Ladosi

A few years ago it seemed unbelievable, but Romania now find themselves participating in Eurovision for a third successive year and, following a high placing in 2003, do not even need to worry about qualifying for the final. It was with confidence,

therefore, that the national television station embarked on a three-part selection process similar to that employed last year. Many of the songs were of an exceptionally high standard, reflecting the determination of the Romanian nation to leave its mark on international music. The final show was broadcast on 13th March 2004, the winner being decided by a combined jury and televote. "I Admit" is an uptempo number with strong ethnic influences that may attract a popular vote. Sanda could easily give Romania its highest placing to date.



3. "I Admit"
(George Popa/Irina Gligor)
Sanda Ladosi 20 / **2nd**
4. "Timbru"
(Victor Socaciu)
Boema 4 / **9th**
5. "Just A Little Love"
(Adrian Romcescu)
Andra 20 / **1st**
6. "Rain"
(Silvia Stefanescu/Calin Ionce)
Silvia Stefanescu 4 / **8th**
7. "Intr-o Zi"
(Andrei Kerestely/Catalin Dancu)
Salamandra 14 / **5th**
8. "I Left My Love In Paris"
(Anda Timbala/Mihai Timbala)
June 3 / **11th**
9. "Feeling Snow White"
(Laurentiu Matei/Ana Maria Mirica)
Nico 14 / **4th**
10. "Am Fost Nebun"
(Raymond Vancu/Neculai Andrei)
Avantgarde 5 / **7th**
11. "Happy"
(Raul Kusak)
Alexandra 10 / **6th**
12. "Tot Pe Ea"
(Parlament)
Parlament 17 / **3rd**

1st Semi Final 28 February 2004

1. "Promise Me"
(Moni-k/Provincialii/Ionut Ungureanu)
Moni-k & Provincialii 2 / **12th**
2. "Believe Me"
(Mihai Traistariu/Tibi Topor/Lazar Cercei)
Adonis 3 / **10th**

2nd Semi Final 6 March 2004

1. "De 2 Ore Te Astept!"
(Dan Tudor)
Supermarket 10 / **=4th**
2. "Perfect!"
(Paula Seling/Stefan Mihailescu)
Paula Seling 12 / **3rd**

- | | |
|--|---|
| 3. "Uitam Sa Traim"
(Mircea Romcescu/Olimpia Panciu)
Academic 8 / =7 th | 2. "Just A Little Love"
Andra 17 / =2 nd |
| 4. "Music"
(George Popa/Irina Gligor)
Shake 10 / =4 th | 3. "Intr-o Zi"
Salamandra 8 / =6 th |
| 5. "OK, Let's Go!"
(Andrei Tudor/Centru' Civic)
Centru' Civic 8 / =7 th | 4. "Feeling Snow White"
Nico 4 / 10 th |
| 6. "All This Time"
(Maria Radu/Emanuel Gheorghe)
Maria Radu 22 / =1 st | 5. "Happy"
Alexandra 5 / 9 th |
| 7. "Crazy In Love"
(Daniel Alexandrescu/George Popa
Radu Fornea/interpret/Mircea Presel)
Dan Lazarica 4 / =10 th | 6. "Tot Pe Ea"
Parlament 9 / 5 th |
| 8. "Don't Be Afraid"
(Cristian Faur/Elena Carstea)
Elena Carstea 22 / =1 st | 7. "De 2 Ore Te Astept!"
Supermarket 0 / =11 th |
| 9. "Stand By Me"
(Oana Vincu/Cezar Halmagean)
Genius 4 / =10 th | 8. "Perfect"
Paula Selling 8 / =6 th |
| 10. "My Love Story"
(Nicolae Caragia/Cristina Nicolaescu)
Adrian Enache 6 / 9 th | 9. "Music"
Shake 0 / =11 th |
| 11. "Lovely"
(Flavius Buzila)
Hara 10 / =4 th | 10. "All This Time"
Maria Radu 17 / =2 nd |
| | 11. "Don't Be Afraid"
Elena Carstea 16 / 3 rd |
| | 12. "Lovely"
Hara 8 / =6 th |

Russia

Song : "Believe Me"
Performer : Julia Savicheva



Withdrawn

- "Listen To My Heart"
(Mihai Ogasanu/Claudia Pavel)
Cream

National Final 13 March 2004

- "I Admit"
Sanda Ladosi 24 / 1st

As is now customary, the Russian entry was chosen by an internal committee. 16 year Julia is a rising star on the local music scene and will sing an uptempo song written and composed by Brenda Loring and Maxim Fadeev. Following t.A.T.u.'s controversial success last year, Russia have already qualified for the grand final.

Serbia & Montenegro

Song : "Lane Moje"
 Translation : "My Sweetheart"
 Performer : Zeljko Joksimovic



The Serbia & Montenegro final was held in Belgrade's Sava Center between 20th and 22nd February 2004. The first evening was devoted to the annual Beovizija contest from which the top four were awarded a place alongside 20 established acts already nominated for Evropesma 2004. Extra

Nena, who represented Yugoslavia in 1992, was featured in the line up for the second evening. The winning entry, performed by Zeljko Joksimovic, is an ethnic rock song about love!

Beovizija 20 February 2004

- | | | |
|-----|---------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. | "U Prolazu"
Aco Regina | 3 / =19 th |
| 2. | "Na Dlanu"
Agata | 11 / =13 th |
| 3. | "Zauvek"
Boris Režak | 66 / 2 nd |
| 4. | "Meni Češ Doći"
Braco | 0 / =25 th |
| 5. | "Telo Uz Telo"
Danijela Vranić | 5 / 17 th |
| 6. | "Samo Ti"
Darko | 0 / =25 th |
| 7. | "Tvoje Oči Žive"
Denis & Obule | 27 / 6 th |
| 8. | "Od 1 Do 10"
Đogani | 4 / 18 th |
| 9. | "Erogena Zona"
Husa | 0 / =25 th |
| 10. | "Staro Srebro"
Igor Tasovac | 0 / =25 th |
| 11. | "Zabranieni Ples"
Ivana Knežević | 1 / =22 nd |
| 12. | "Ljubav U Prahu"
Jelena Jevremović | 12 / 12 th |
| 13. | "Moli Me"
Jelena Karleuša | 13 / 11 th |

14. "Nervoza" Jelena Popović	1 / =22 nd	1. "Posle Tebe" Jovana Nikolic	23 / 10 th
15. "Grmi, Seva" Koktel Bend & Orkestar Bobana Markovica	46 / 5 th	2. "Daj Mi Snage" Teodora Bojovic & Night Shift	33 / =6 th
16. "Prokleti Ponedeljak" Ksenija Ivanović	16 / 9 th	3. "Evropa" Evropa	37 / 5 th
17. "Zamisl" Leontina	64 / 3 rd	4. "More Ljubavi" Extra Nena	15 / =12 th
18. "222" Luna	23 / 7 th	5. "Priznaj" Sasa Vasic	8 / =15 th
19. "Poslednja Odrbana" Maja Nikolić & Ceca Slavković	3 / =19 th	6. "Kad Ne Bude Tvoje Ljubavi" Jelena Tomasevic	20 / 11 th
20. "Jedna Više" Marko Jevtić	1 / 22 nd	7. "Mozes Da Me Ne Volis" Slobodan Bajic	4 / 19 th
21. "Opraštam Ti Sve" Martin Vučić	14 / 10 th	8. "Takva Žena" Ana Milenkovic	6 / 18 th
22. "Namerno" Mina Lazarević	9 / 15 th	9. "Istina" Tanja Banjanin	0 / =22 nd
23. "Moje Oko Plavo" Natasa Kojić	59 / 4 th	10. "Zauvek" Boris Režak	0 / =22 nd
24. "Zbunjena" Negativ	79 / 1 st	11. "Navika" Knez	7 / 17 th
25. "Svašta Mi Se Desilo" Noć & Dan	11 / =13 th	12. "Ko Nijedna Druga" Negre	46 / 3 rd
26. "Nikada Više" Suzana Petrović	2 / 21 st	13. "Igra" Madam Piano	25 / 9 th
27. "Džemper" Yo	17 / 8 th	14. "Zbunjena" Negativ	44 / 4 th
28. "Lepo Vreme U Beogradu" Zorana	8 / 16 th	15. "Uzmi Me" Tanja Jovicevic	8 / =15 th
Evropesma	21 February 2004	16. "Dao Bih Sve" Sasa Dragas	0 / =22 nd

17. "Ne Mogu Da Ti Oprostim"
Sergei Cetkovic 27 / **8th**
18. "Lane Moje"
Zeljko Joksimovic 84 / **1st**
19. "Zamisli"
Leontina 15 / **=12th**
20. "Reka Bez Povratka"
Peti Element 47 / **2nd**
21. "Moje Oko Plavo"
Natasa Kojić 1 / **21st**
22. "Ne Trgujem Osjecanjima"
Mogul 3 / **20th**
23. "Kad Ponos Ubije Ljubav"
Mari Mari 9 / **14th**
24. "Ni Jedna Suza"
Andrijana & Marija Bozovic 33 / **=6th**

Slovenia

Song : "Stay Forever"
Performers : Platin



EMA underwent further changes for 2004, this time modelled on the successes of Sweden's Melodifestival in recent years. Four semi-finals were held, with the top three plus a wild card from each qualifying for the grand final. After each song had been performed a combined jury and television vote, calculated in true Eurovision style, decided the top three that were then subject to a further round of televoting to determine the overall winner. As such, the duo Platin will represent Slovenia in Istanbul with their inoffensive, seventies style love song.

1st Semi Final 11 January 2004

1. "Brez Mej"
(*Mojca Brecelj/Marino Legović*)
Mojca Brecelj 924 / **8th**
2. "Sanje"
(*Aljoša Kovačič/Milan Dekleva/Igor Leonardi/Krešimir Tomec*)
Aljoša Kovačič 941 / **7th**
3. "Plave Očj"
(*Aleksander Kogoj/Feri Lainšček/Tomaž Kozlevčar*)
Regina 3315 / **2nd**
4. "Stay Forever"
(*Simon Gomilšek/Diana Lečnik/Simon Gomilšek*)
Platin 6824 / **1st**
5. "Kar Me Ne Ubije, Me Krepi"
(*Leon Oblak/Bor Zuljan*)
Johnny Bravo 1689 / **6th**
6. "If You"
(*Bojan Simončič/Gašper Kačar/Ana Soklič/Simona Franko/Dalibor Sterniša*)
Diona Dim 3198 / **3rd**
7. "Pot Do Sreče"
(*Mikola*)
Mikola 1888 / **5th**

8. "O, Ženske, Zenske!"
(Marino Legovič/Damjana Kenda–
Hussu)
Tulio Furlanič 2654 / 4th

2nd Semi Final 18 January 2004

1. "Nie Ne Ustavi Me"
(Aleš Klinar/Anja Rupel/Franci
Zabukovec)
Monika Pucelj 2953 / 2nd

2. "Cry On My Shoulder"
(Matjaž Vlašič/Urša Vlašič/Aleš Èadež)
Natalija Verboten 11694 / 1st

3. "Si Tukaj Al' Te Ni"
(Danilo Kocjančič/Drago Mislej–
Mef/Marino Legoviè)
Jasmina Cafnik 588 / 8th

4. "Here And There And Everywhere"
(Chantal Hartmann)
Chantal Hartmann 1655 / 4th

5. "Svet Se Vrti Nazaj"
(Marijan Novina/Urša Mravljje
Fajon/Sašo Fajon)
Marijan Novina 1206 / 7th

6. "Èe Zdaj Odides Sama"
(Matjaž Vlašič/Urša Vlašič/Boštjan
Grabnar)
Yuhubanda 2478 / 3rd

7. "Ni Bilo Zaman"
(Patrik Greblo/Milan Dekleva)
Ana Dezman 1386 / 6th

8. "Boš Prišla"
(Jože Jež/Matjaž Švigelj)
Kalamari 1649 / 5th

3rd Semi Final 25 January 2004

1. "Tvoj Svet"
(Andej Pompe/Suzana Jeklič/Panda)
Panda feat. Trkaj 1633 / 6th

2. "Kralj Neba"
(Sašo Fajon/Drago Mislej–Mef)
Polona 2580 / 3rd

3. "Junak"
(Aleš Štefancič)
Prava Stvar 1779 / 5th

4. "Lights Into My Eyes"
(Roland Makovec)
Number One 1049 / 7th

5. "Kako Naj Vem"
(Martin Štibernik/Karmen Stavec)
Victory 1027 / 8th

6. "Fluid"
(Bor Zuljan/Cvetka Omladič)
Alya 3091 / 2nd

7. "Mavrica"
(Milan Ferlež/Aldorica Bronson/Milan
Krapež)
Kristina Oberzan 1904 / 4th

8. "Moja Moe"
(Igor Potočnik/Jurko Starc)
Damijana Godnie 3217 / 1st

4th Semi Final 1 February 2004

1. "No Reason To Cry"
(Grega Samar/Maja Osrajnik-Mithans)
November 1345 / 5th

2. "Ne Boš Se Igral"
(Frenk Nova/Rebeka Dremelj)
Rebeka Dremelj 4244 / 1st

3. "Tvoj Glas"
(Marino Legovič/Damjana Kenda–
Hussu/Marino Legoviè)
Ylenia Zobec 1493 / 4th

4. "Slovo Brez Mej"
(Raay/Mojca Seliškar/Maja Slatinšek)
Maja Slatinšek 3962 / 2nd

5. "Kliše"
(Boris Benko/Primož Hladnik)
Rozmarinke 2264 / **3rd**
6. "In Ti Greš"
(Zvone Hranjec/Tone Košmrlj)
Pop Design 1097 / **8th**
7. "Pozar"
(Raay/Ropo/Hellga)
Zana & R'n'B Wannabes
1322 / **6th**
8. "Živa"
(Rok Golob/Štefan Miljevič/Katrinās)
Katrinās 1195 / **7th**

Reserve Songs

1. "Ko Pride Ėas"
(Rok Kosmač/Aleš Zibelnik)
Rok Kosmaè
2. "To Je Moja Stvar"
(Tomi Valenko)
Mili
3. "V Kaj Verjameš"
(Miro Sešek/Dejan Mesec/Marjan Gradišar)
Juhej & Adamsi
4. "Mala Sonca"
(Bojan Simončič/Nataša Artiček/Ingrid Peinkircher)
Nataša Artièek

Grand Final 15 February 2004

1. "Èe Zdaj Odides Sama"
Yuhubanda 0 / 4 / **11th**
2. "Ne Boš Se Igral"
Rebeka Dremelj 0 / 5 / **10th**
3. "Kralj Neba"
Polona 3 / 0 / **12th**

4. "Cry On My Shoulder"
Natalija Verboten 0 / 12 / **4th**
5. "Nie Ne Ustavi Me"
Monika Pucelj 8 / 3 / **5th**
6. "Fluid"
Alya 4 / 8 / **3rd**
19048 / **3rd**
7. "Tvoj Glas"
Ylenia Zobec 7 / 0 / **7th**
8. "Junak"
Prava Stvar 0 / 0 / **=14th**
9. "Kliše"
Rozmarinke 12 / 6 / **2nd**
21805 / **2nd**
10. "Plave Očj"
Regina 1 / 2 / **13th**
11. "O, Ženske, Zenske!"
Tulio Furlanič 6 / 0 / **8th**
12. "If You"
Diona Dim 5 / 1 / **9th**
13. "Slovo Brez Mej"
Maja Slatinšek 2 / 7 / **6th**
14. "Stay Forever"
Platin 10 / 10 / **1st**
31279 / **1st**
15. "Svet Se Vrti Nazaj"
Marijan Novina 0 / 0 / **=14th**
16. "Moja Moe"
Damijana Godnie 0 / 0 / **=14th**

Spain

Song : "Para Llenarme De Ti"
Translation : "To Be Filled With You"
Performers : Ramón



Ramón

- 1st "Para Llenarme De Ti"
- 2nd "Todo Vuelve A Importar"
- 3rd "Cuestión De Alma"

Miguel

- 1st "Muéveme"
- 2nd "Amor De Madrugada"
- 3rd "Hoy Te Quiero Más"

Davinia

- 1st "Cómo Quieres Que Te Quier"
- 2nd "Quiero Tu Amor"
- 3rd "Mi Obsesión"

Final Four

1. "Cómo Quieres Que Te Quier"
Davinia 15.4% / 4th
2. "Muéveme"
Miguel 16.5% / 3rd
3. "Para Llenarme De Ti"
Ramón 38.8% / 1st
4. "Se Me Va La Vida"
Vicente 29.3% / 2nd

For a third successive year 'Operación Triunfo' was the means by which the Spanish entry was chosen. Beginning on 29th September 2003 17 singers were reduced to three in readiness for an 'OT' final broadcast on 22nd December. Vicente was declared the overall winner, but subsequently joined Ramón (2nd), Miguel (3rd) and Davinia (wild card) in a Eurovision Gala to choose the Spanish entry. Each singer performed three songs, which were in turn reduced to four final songs on 21st February 2004. One week later, and after extensive televoting, the Spanish entry was confirmed on 28th February at the end of a show full of Eurovision memories and special guests, including Massiel (ES68), Salome (ES69) and Beth (ES03).

Vicente

- 1st "Se Me Va La Vida"
- 2nd "Veinte Años Más"
- 3rd "Nadie Como Tú"

48

The remaining thirteen singers in order of elimination were : Isabel; Federico; José; Miriam; Sonia; Jorge; Israel; Borja; Nuria; Beatriz; Noelia; Leticia; and Mario;

Sweden

Song : "It Hurts"

Original Title : "Det Gör Ont"

Performer : Lena Philipsson

For the third successive year SVT organized four semi finals in various parts of Sweden, a fifth wildcard final and Melodifestival 2004 – the culmination of these proceedings being held at Stockholm's now famous Globen. As usual, the top two songs

from each round won a place in the final show with the third and second placed songs obtaining a further chance to do so in the wildcard round. Once again, all 32 songs were of an extremely high standard confirming Sweden's enviable place within the international music industry. On the final night voting was equally split between regional juries and televoting. The show also featured a medley of ABBA songs a la Turkish! In a closely fought battle Lena Philipsson, who has almost 20 years experience behind her, won the Melodifestival crown and will perform an English version of her winning song in Istanbul.



1st Semi Final 21 February 2004

1. "En Gång För Alla"
(Gustav Eurén/Karl Eurén/Niklas Arn)
Nina & Kim 7th
2. "Still Believe"
(Johan Bejerholm/Jonas Sahlin/Emil Heiling)
Jocke Bergström 8th
3. "Älvorna"
(Lars Diedricson/Marcos Ubeda/Dan Attlerud)
Sarek =3rd
4. "Love Turns Water Into Wine"
(Miqael Persson/Peter Broman)
Karl Martindahl =3rd
5. "It's In The Stars"
(Lars Andersson/Thomas Thörnholm)
La Gaylia Frazier 5th
6. "Som Stormen"
(Lars Diedricsen/Carina Danielsson Bergsman/Eddie Jonsson)
Sara Löfgren =1st
7. "Tro På Mig"
(Lasse Berghagen)
Niklas Andersson 6th
8. "Tango! Tango!"
(Thomas G:son)
Petra Nielsen =1st

2nd Semi Final 28 February 2004

1. "Finally"
(Fredrik Kempe)
Fredrik Kempe =3rd
2. "Soy Tu Venus"
(Robert Habolin/Mats Jansson/Robert Olausson)
Baccara 7th
3. "Vindarna Vänder Oss"
(Henrik Sethsson/Pontus Assarsson/Dan Attlerud)
Fame =1st
4. "You Are The Sunshine Of My Life"
(Ari Lethonen/Dick Cruslock)
Jennifer Escola 8th
5. "Trendy Discotheque"
(Håkan Lidbo)
Pay-TV 6th

- | | | | | | |
|----|--|------------------|----|--|------------------|
| 6. | “Säg Att Du Ångrat Dig”
(Tony Johansson/Thomas G:son)
Anne-Lie Rydé | =3 rd | 1. | “Det Gör Ont”
(Thomas “Orup” Eriksson)
Lena Philipsson | =1 st |
| 7. | “(Are U) Ready Or Not”
(J Hällgren/M Sagrén/K Medhipoor)
Tobias Kagelind & La Roxx | 5 th | 2. | “Just Like Me”
(Anders Borgius)
Anders Borgius | 7 th |
| 8. | “Paradise”
(E-type/Fredrik Ekdahl)
E-Type | =1 st | 3. | “Boom Bang-a-Bang”
(Lars Erlandsson/Fredrik
Lenander/David Clewett)
Lotta Nilsson & Glenn Borgkvist | 6 th |

3rd Semi Final 6 March 2004

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|------------------|----|--|------------------|
| 1. | “Blow The Spot”
(Niclas Molinder/Joacim Persson/Pelle
Ankarberg)
Bubbles | =3 rd | 4. | “La Dolce Vita”
(Sven-Inge Sjöberg/Lennart
Wastesson/Larry Forsberg)
After Dark | =1 st |
| 2. | “Innan Mörkret Fallar”
(Johan Fransson/Niklas Edberger/Tim
Larsson/Tobias Lundgren)
Emil Sigfridsson | 5 th | 5. | “Runaway”
(Johan Fransson/Niklas Edberger/Tim
Larsson/Tobias Lundgren)
Pandora | 5 th |
| 3. | “Baby I Can't Stop”
(Mats Hedström/Daniel Eklund)
Gladys del Pilar | 8 th | 6. | “Äntligen”
(Putte Nelsson/Jonatan Fre/Henok
Fre/Roberto Martorell)
Fre | 8 th |
| 4. | “Här Stannar Jag Kvar”
(Sandra Dahlberg/Johan Becker)
Sandra Dahlberg | =1 st | 7. | “Min Kärlek”
(Pling Forsman/Bobby
Ljunggren/Henrik Wikström)
Shirley Clamp | =3 rd |
| 5. | “Super Mega Nova”
(Tobias Gustafsson/Mia
Bergström/Håkan Glänte)
Itchycoo | 7 th | 8. | “Olé Olé”
(Johan Fransson/Niklas Edberger/Tim
Larsson/Tobias Lundgren)
Andres Esteche | =3 rd |
| 6. | “C'est La Vie”
(Tomas G:sson)
Towa Carson, Ann-Louise Hanson
& Siw Malmkvist | =1 st | | | |

5th Semi Final 14 March 2004

- | | | | | | |
|----|---|------------------|----|---|--------------|
| 7. | “Bulletproof Heart”
(Peder Ernerot, Gustave Lund)
Autolove | 6 th | 1. | “Love Turns Water Into Wine”
Karl Martindahl | - eliminated |
| 8. | “Efharisto”
(Pling Forsman/Bobby
Ljunggren/Henrik Wikström)
Bosson | =3 rd | 2. | “Säg Att Du Ångrat Dig”
Anne-Lie Rydé | - eliminated |
| | | | 3. | “Älvorna”
Sarek | - eliminated |

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 4. | "Blow The Spot"
Bubbles | - eliminated |
| 5. | "Finally"
Fredrik Kempe | - eliminated |
| 6. | "Min Kärlek"
Shirley Clamp | =1 st |
| 7. | "Efharisto"
Bosson | - eliminated |
| 8. | "Olé Olé"
Andres Esteche | =1 st |

Switzerland

Song : "Celebrate"
Performers : Piero Estiore
& the Music Stars



Melodifestival 20th March 2004

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----------------------|
| 1. | "Min Kärlek"
Shirley Clamp | 174 / 2 nd |
| 2. | "Här Stannar Jag Kvar"
Sandra Dahlberg | 19 / 8 th |
| 3. | "Olé Olé"
Andres Esteche | 14 / 9 th |
| 4. | "C'est La Vie"
Towa Carson, Ann-Louise Hanson
& Siw Malmkvist | 7 / 10 th |
| 5. | "Paradise"
E-Type | 75 / 5 th |
| 6. | "Det Gör Ont"
Lena Philipsson | 232 / 1 st |
| 7. | "Vindarna Vänder Oss"
Fame | 66 / 6 th |
| 8. | "La Dolce Vita"
After Dark | 156 / 3 rd |
| 9. | "Som Stormen"
Sara Löfgren | 52 / 7 th |
| 10. | "Tango! Tango!"
Petra Nielsen | 151 / 4 th |

Returning after an absence forced by relegation, Switzerland combined their national final with the TV series MusicStar that sought to produce a new musical star for the Swiss nation. The winner of the final show, Carmen Fenk, was awarded with a place in the final alongside other singers drawn from the French, German and Italian speaking provinces of the alpine country. Voting was close on 6th March 2004, with just two points separating the first and second placed songs. "Celebrate" is a happy, clappy, gospel number that could go either way with the voters, but is unlikely the lead to the inaugural host presenting the 50th show in 2005.

- | | | |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 1. | "Dove Nascono Gli Amori"
Antonella Laforteza | 24 / 6 th |
| 2. | "Sicuramente Uomini"
Mauro Sabbioni | 15 / 9 th |
| 3. | "You Are Pretty"
A-Live | 27 / 4 th |
| 4. | "The Ghost Of You"
Daniela Brun | 17 / 7 th |

5. "Heb Ab"
Irina 10 / 12th
6. "Celebrate"
Piero Esteriore & the Music Stars 38 / 1st
7. "Something New"
Carmen Fenk 26 / 5th
8. "By Your Side"
Mario Pacchioli 36 / 2nd
9. "Fly Away"
Tiffen 17 / 8th
10. "Je Rêve D'un Monde"
Lorenzo Marra 14 / 10th
11. "L'Île De Lumière"
Fanny 13 / 11th
12. "Le Monde Danse"
Caroline Agostino 29 / 3rd

Turkey

Song : "For Real"
Performers : Athena



Having appointed Athena to sing the 2004 Turkish entry, TRT previewed the three short listed songs, all of which were composed by Athena, ahead of a

final televised broadcast on 24th January 2004. The viewing public were almost unanimous in their voting, with the winning song receiving nearly 80% of the votes. It will, perhaps, be one of the more unusual songs on stage and it remains to be seen whether the televoters of Europe will be equally impressed.

"I Love Mud On My Face" 10% / 3rd

"Easy Man" 11% / 2nd

"For Real" 79% / 1st

Ukraine

Song : "Wild Dances"
Original Title : "Dikiye Tantsy"
Performer : Ruslana Lyzhichko



Despite considering various ways of choosing the second Ukrainian entry, it was eventually decided to leave responsibility to an internal committee made up of television executives and musical experts. Ruslana is an increasingly popular female singer within Ukraine and her Eurovision entry is also the title of her latest album. Although described as contemporary rock, many of her songs are influenced by Ukrainian folk music.

United Kingdom

Song : "Hold On To Our Love"

Performer : James Fox



'Nil Points Never Again' were the words echoing around the BBC's Television Centre within days of last years unfortunate result. The result was a prestigious, prime time television show that featured six songs written and composed by some of the UK's top songwriters. To preserve impartiality, none of the songwriters were made public, although 'Music Week' confirmed that the line up included Pam Sheyne (the woman behind Christina Aguilera's "Genie In A Bottle") and former Take That member, Gary Barlow. The show was presented by the one and only Terry Wogan assisted by Gaby Roslin, but the night belonged to James Fox from Cardiff! True to their word, the BBC withheld the names of all songwriters, with the exception of

winners Gary Miller and Tim Woodcock, the latter previously responsible for S Club 7's hit "You".

1. "Weekend (Gotta Work)"
Enrap-ture 37 / 4th
2. "Hold On To Our Love"
James Fox 120 / 1st
3. "Me Without You"
Haifa 9 / 6th
4. "Leading Me On"
Hyrise 82 / 2nd
5. "With You I Believe"
Haydon 17 / 5th
6. "It Just Gets Better"
Madison Taylor 59 / 3rd

James Is Number One

... or he can be with your help! "Hold On To Our Love" is currently available in a store near you and, at the time of going to print, is predicted to go top ten. But in the footsteps of Belgium, Germany and Sweden, who have all seen their entry hit the top spot, it's up to all Eurovision and James Fox fans to help do the same in the United Kingdom.

Two versions of the CD single have been released by Sony Music, the details of which are:

CD 1 "Hold On To Our Love" / "Something About Her" Catalogue No. 6748731

CD 2 "Hold On To Our Love" / "Needing You" / "Hold On To Our Love" (instrumental) / "Hold On To Our Love" (video) Catalogue No. 6748732

Phone-In Poll

Despite entering uncharted territories, with the both the qualifying and final Eurovision Song Contest's to be considered, Derek Farquhar intends to collect your votes in the annual pre-contest 'phone-in poll

Once you have listened to all 36 songs, either from the official website or the compilation CD due out before the contest, vote for your favourite ten songs, giving your least favourite 1 point and continuing through to 8, 10 and 12 in true Eurovision style.

Lines will be open from after the qualifying show on 12th May 2004 and remain open until 6.00 pm on Saturday, 15th May 2004. You can also vote by e-mail.

Telephone : 01273 687081

E-mail : derek.farquhar@virgin.net



Information Line

There will be three opportunities to catch up with all the news from Istanbul by telephoning Vision's unique and live information line operated, as always, by Darren Jenkin

Sunday, 9th May 2004
Tuesday, 11th May 2004
Friday, 14th May 2004

Lines will be open between 7.00 pm and 9.00 pm on each of the above dates

PLEASE DO NOT TELEPHONE OUTSIDE OF THESE TIMES

The important telephone number is

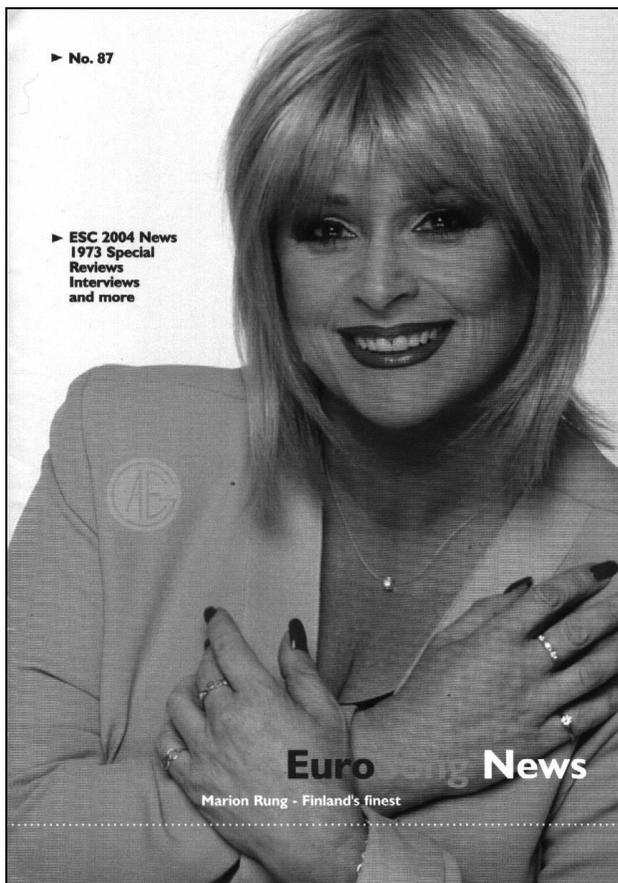
077 5225 6210

While Vision hopes it will be possible to provide a full information service as usual, this is dependant on our representatives in Turkey who, at the time of going to print, are unaware of full rehearsal schedules. In the event that the information service cannot operate, a recorded message will inform you accordingly.

Don't forget Retrospective!

Your voting form will be found in the middle of this issue!

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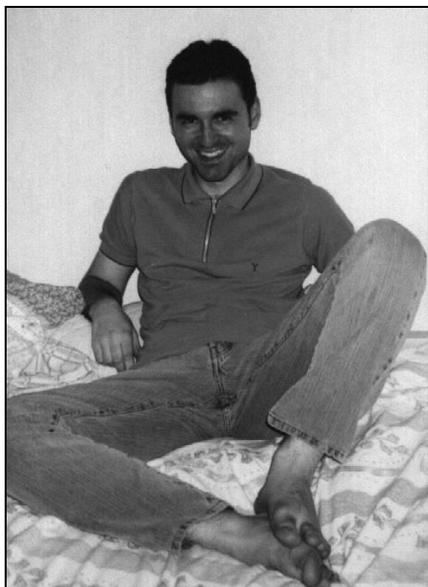
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“Vision”, 51 Greenfields Avenue, Totton, Southampton SO40 3LU

The Day I ...

Became a Lithuanian songwriter

In this article, OGAE member Georgios Kalpakidis tells how one of his songs ended up in the Lithuanian pre-selection for ESC 2004



It all seems like a lifetime away, but it isn't! It happened more than a year ago while I was living and working in the UK. It was the time I started taking my song writing career seriously and, like every single one of us, I had a dream; a dream to participate with one of my songs at the Eurovision Song Contest! At that moment it seemed so far away from me and if anyone had told me then what would happen in 2004, I wouldn't have believed them.

Returning to Greece, I carried on writing new material and finishing some of my old songs in the studio. Somehow I knew that something would soon happen with one of my songs so I

decided to do a demo of "Be My Baby", originally called "Can You Hear Me Now?" and contacted ERT in order to submit it for Eurovision. Unfortunately for me, ERT had already decided on a composer for the 2004 Greek entry, but I didn't give up and decided to try another country!

Finland, Estonia and Malta were my next three targets, but with deadlines approaching there just wasn't enough time to find a singer who could record the song and make any adjustments before submitting it to the selection panels. This was my second disappointment and I was ready to give up – at least for 2004. Then I read an announcement from LRT informing me that their selection process was open to all European composers and lyricists. I had been given another chance!

Having contacted a record company in Vilnius, some of their singers were already in the final stages of preparing songs for consideration and I was too late. But then I found out about Eva, a young and increasingly successful singer. Her manager, Jurgis Gylys, informed me that she was very interested in taking part in the Lithuanian final, but was still looking for a suitable song. I sent him the demo with my voice and waited. Before too long had passed I received an e-mail with the words "the song sounds great and we're very interested. We want to record it". I was stunned! It was one of the happiest days of my life. People I had never met had listened to my creation and agreed that the song had potential. That brought enormous satisfaction to me as a songwriter.

Things began to move fast. Recording, rearrangement, vocals, mixing and mastering. Two days before the closing date the song was submitted to LRT and then the waiting began all over again. When the announcement came

just before Christmas, Eva, Jurgis and I all discovered that we were among the 54 songs chosen for the semi finals! An even bigger joy and satisfaction than that already experienced! The song, a love song, is not a typical love song. It seeks to remind the couple involved that life is short and shouldn't be taken for granted. Even the melody has a 'now or never' feel to it and is hopefully catchy enough for people to remember.

Even though I don't originate from Lithuania I already feel like a part of this small nation. It's ironic, in once sense, as both of my grandmothers were born in Russia with one a former dancer in the world famous Bolshoi Ballet, so I have some affinity with the northern realms of Europe. It sounds strange, but I guess things like this can happen. A Greek guy with a little Russian blood taking part in the Lithuanian selection for Eurovision.

As I write this article I try to be positive, knowing that my song will have to compete against many others, both good and bad. I cannot afford to underestimate anyone else's potential,

but I know that I have a chance, now and in the future, and I want to fight for the best chance of all.

Dreams can come true if you simply believe in them. One of my dreams has already come true and that's because I didn't give up. I carried on until the end. Whatever the final result might be I am pleased that I got this far and will certainly try again in the future. Of course I want my song to be the most successful of them all, but I try not to worry too much because if it's meant to happen ... it will!

Since writing this, Georgios and Eva progressed through the fourth semi-final on 24th January into the Lithuanian final on 14th February. There, however, Eva and "Be My Baby" lost out to the winners of the Lithuanian pre-selection, Linas & Simona.

If you have a memory or reflection, which you would like to have featured in "The Day I ..." please e-mail Marcus Keppel-Palmer at Marcus.Keppel-Palmer@uwe.ac.uk or write in to Vision at the usual address.

OGAE (UK) Eurovision Convention 2004

23rd & 24th October

Ye Olde Bell Hotel, Barnby Moor, Retford, Nottinghamshire

Following on from the success of Reading, it's now time to book for the 2004 OGAE (UK) Convention. Returning to a two day event, a range of packages are available including residential, two day and one day options.

You need to book early to avoid disappointment, so complete the form enclosed with this issue and return it to the address shown as soon as possible.

For further information and enquiries, please send a stamped addressed envelope to OGAE (UK) Convention, 51 Greenfields Avenue, Totton, Southampton SO40 3LU or e-mail editor_vision@hotmail.com

Viva La Diva

Graham Welch profiles France's professional tomboy Nina Morato

Stéphanie Morato was born in a working class district of north eastern Paris on 2 March 1966. After her parents moved to the suburb of Malakoff, she became something of a problem teenager, frequently playing truant from school.

Nina, as she had become known, became a familiar face on the Paris club scene and was spotted by a choreographer who persuaded her to appear in the video for popular French 1980s singer David Christie. The pair got on well and eventually married and had a baby daughter.

Encouraged by her new husband's success, Nina risked accusations of nepotism and released a couple of singles under the name Christie, "Funky school" and "Envie d'amour", in 1988. Neither was a success, nor was a third, "L'autre partie de moi-même", released under the name Stéphanie.

She finally came to the attention of the general public when she recorded a medley of songs by militant singer Daniel Balavoine, who died in a helicopter accident, and appeared often on television. However, chart success continued to elude her.

She released a further couple of singles, this time under the name Stéphanie de Malakoff. Again, neither "Mon p'tit Arthur" nor "T'en fais deux fois trop", released in 1990, appealed to record buyers. Her marriage also began to fail and the pair divorced.

Only after becoming involved with another 1980s pop star, Jérôme Pigeon of the band Pijon, and having his child did her career begin to take off. The single "Maman" became a big hit, and "Je suis la mieux" stormed up the

album charts. It included three songs written by her new husband.

Its success helped her secure the Best Female Newcomer of the Year prize at the Victoires de la Musique awards in 1994. She was subsequently chosen in an internal television company selection to represent France at the Eurovision Song Contest. "Je suis un vrai garçon" played up to her tomboyish look and finished a respectable seventh in Dublin. Her appearance led to her performing a string of concerts and ending the year starring in the film 'La séparation'.

Two years later she released a follow up album, "L'Allumeuse", which failed to repeat the success of its predecessor.

A third album, "Moderato", in 1999, fared much better in terms of sales, though it marked a low point for Nina personally. The singer used it as a vehicle to vent her grief over losing a baby just a few months beforehand.

With just occasional concert appearances, Nina has maintained a lower profile since then.

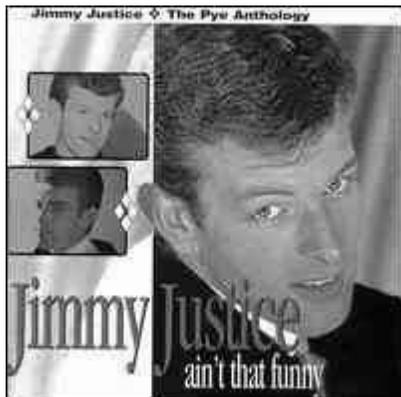


Personal tragedy allowed Nina to reinvent herself as a sensitive, mature singer in the late 1990s

Whatever Happened To

JIMMY JUSTICE

by Marcus Keppel-Palmer



Jimmy Justice was another UK artist whose hitmaking career did not survive the Beatles led beat boom. On the face of it, Justice could be dismissed as another manufactured singer, fed on a diet of covers of US hits. But that would be an unfair summary to a talented vocalist, who has been recognised as having one of the first blue-eyed soul voices, and who has now been seen as having been in the wrong place at the wrong time. He participated in the 1963 Song For Europe with "The Little Cracked Bell Of San Raquel", which lost out to Ronnie Carroll.

Jimmy was born in South London in December 1939 as James Little. After a childhood growing up during the War and in times of rationing, the teenage Jimmy was attracted by the bright lights of Soho. He spent much of the late 50s hanging around London's premier rock and roll, skiffle & coffee bars like the 2Is, birthplace of Cliff Richard. Many of his friends were aspiring rock and rollers. In particular, Jimmy became

friends with Dave and George Sweetman, step-brothers to Emile Ford, lead singer with The Checkmates, who had a number 1 hit in 1959 with "What Do You Want To Make Those Eyes At Me For?". Jimmy would sing occasionally with the Checkmates, but soon took up the guitar and formed his own trio, Jimmy Justice and the Jury, performing on the coffee bar circuit.

In 1960, Justice and his trio participated in a talent competition run at the Soho Fair, which offered a recording contract as first prize. Jimmy came third but this led to a recording tryout with EMI and the subsequent offer of a contract. However, Emile Ford persuaded Jimmy to turn that down and record with him instead. After trying to get a deal with legendary producer, Joe Meek, Justice signed with Pye and released his first single "I Understand" in November 1960. The record flopped; neither Justice nor Pye really promoted it, but Justice was put under a three year contract under the guidance of Tony Hatch.

Jimmy went to Sweden to be with his girlfriend and whilst this meant his career in the UK was off to a slow start, he took the opportunity to play a few clubs over there which led to appearances on radio and TV. From these beginnings, Jimmy would find a continuing and loyal audience in Scandinavia. In April 1961 he released his second single, "When Love Has Left You", which was well received but saw no chart action. However, Jimmy did make his UK TV debut on "Thank Your Lucky Stars". Jimmy then had a track on an EP of covers from the film musical, "Bye Bye Birdie" ("Baby Talk To Me" - done by Bobby Rydell in the movie).

For his third single, Hatch went down the path of making his artist cover a US hit, in this case a cover of the Jarmels'

"A Little Bit Of Soap" which was covered in the 70s by Showaddywaddy. Although this missed the charts, it was the flipside (another Jarmels' song) "Little Lonely One" which picked up massive airplay in Sweden. Justice, who went backwards and forwards to Sweden, capitalised on the success by fronting his own TV show there, seeing the re-release of his previous discs and touring. However, Tony Hatch recalled Jimmy to the UK to record a cover a current US hit, "When My Little Girl Is Smiling", which was also covered by Craig Douglas (SFE 61). This song provided Jimmy with his first Top 10 hit. Unfortunately, contractual commitments in Sweden meant that his UK promotional activities were limited, although he did tour with Emile Ford, Petula Clark and The Allisons (UK61). Jimmy's follow up was "Ain't That Funny", written by Johnny Worth under the name Les Vandyke. Johnny/Les would write a song for the 1963 Song For Europe in competition to Jimmy's own entry. "Ain't That Funny" was a Top 10 hit in June 1962, but again Jimmy was contracted to appear in Sweden. He toured that Autumn with Emile Ford and then with Billy Fury, where he was compared vocally to Ben E. King of the Drifters. Without any hint of irony, Justice's next release was a cover of "Spanish Harlem", the Ben E King song, and this too took him into the Top 20 in the latter months of 1962. But that was to be the end of Jimmy's hitmaking career. A triple whammy of a poor follow-up single ("Parade Of Broken Hearts"), a first album ("Two Sides Of Jimmy Justice") which had an eclectic choice of material and the onset of Beatlemania did him in. But at the time, Jimmy could look back on a successful year, with hits not only in the UK and

Sweden, but also Germany and Australia, and interest from the USA.

In January 1963, the next single, "The World Of Lonely People", also flopped. A 7th place in Song For Europe did not augur well for "Little Cracked Bell" in the charts when that too was released in February. May's release, a cover of John D Loudermilk's "The Guitar Player" was a good song, but by then the musical scene had moved on. Live, Justice and his new backing band, the Excheckers (former members of Emile Ford's group), were a tougher proposition and they toured regularly, including a residency at Hamburg's Star Club (former home to the Beatles), but on disc the sound did not come through.

A second album, "Smash Hits" failed to stop the rot; amongst other songs he covered the Drifters' "Save The Last Dance" and "Up On The Roof". Jimmy had further hits in Germany, but by now Pye were letting Jimmy see out his contract. Three further singles were released over the next two years; Jimmy wrote two of them himself. Although Jimmy continued to perform and indeed recorded for RCA and Decca until the early 1970s, he retired from the music business.

Many people cite Jimmy Justice as having the best white soul voice of the 60s. Others say he had the definitive version of "When My Little Girl Is Smiling", with the harpsichord opening. However, talent alone does not a successful career make and Jimmy was dogged by simply being in the wrong place at the wrong time.



Quiz Time

With thanks to Marcus Keppel-Palmer and Martin Faulkner – answers on page 79

A slice of Danish – 80's style

1. How many times did Tommy Seebach participate in the Danish pre-selection in total?
2. Kirsten and Søren represented Denmark on no fewer than three occasions during the 80s. What are their surnames?
3. In which band were both Tommy Seebach and Søren members during the 70s (though not necessarily at the same time)?
4. "Kloden Drejer" – not really a hymn to a washing machine, how does this title translate into English?
5. Who, with remarkable foresight, sang a tribute to the Danish national football stadium - "Fællessang i Parken" - in the 1986 national final?
6. Anne-Catherine and Bandjo recorded and released their 1987 entry in how many different languages?
7. All three of Kirsten and Søren's entries were composed by Søren. Who wrote the lyrics in each case?
8. Søren also composed a fourth Danish ESC entry. Which song and year?
9. Why were the 1982 Danish entrants Brixx so named?
10. Debbie Cameron sang for Denmark in 1981 – but where was she born?

Richard's Round Up

As the excitement mounts towards this years contest there has been a distinct lack of it in the charts. Since Christmas sales figures have dropped to their lowest point ever, which has resulted in several singles hanging around the charts longer than usual. A lot of the blame for this current situation lays with the record companies and an unexciting release schedule for the first three months of 2004. All of which means that this edition of Round Up is full of news about re-issues and compilations!

However, before we look to the future, we start with a few corrections from my last Round Up. Firstly the gremlins got into my computer and some of the paragraphs got mixed up! The "Dancin' On A Saturday Night" CD (CMDDD 828) is the fifth compilation of material by Barry Blue and the rumour about EMI releasing a CD of late sixties recordings referred to Kathy Kirby. The "Magic Of Robert Earl" CD released on Spectrum does not, unfortunately, include "All".

During the Christmas period Sir Cliff Richard reached number 5 in the singles chart with "Santa's List" whilst the "Cliff At Christmas" album peaked at 9. The album even sold well enough to make number 50 in the best selling albums of 2003. Although no other Eurovision artists managed to join him on the year end album chart there were two ESC related titles in the best selling singles of last year. Controversial Russian duo t.A.T.u. ranked sixth with "All The Things She Said" and, even though it only reached number 8 in the charts, XTM's dance version of "Fly On The Wings Of Love" was the 32nd best selling single of 2003. Meanwhile the UK press has reported that Elena is intending to leave t.A.T.u. to pursue a

solo career. Hopefully 2004 will prove to be a better year for Eurovision related artists and songs.

Unfortunately the Aubrey Lemmon single peaked at number 90 due to distribution and technical problems, but the guys are grateful to everyone who did buy the single and hopefully it won't be too long before they make the Top 40. When the United Colours Of Sound joined UB40 on "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" neither group could have predicted just how successful the single would be. It eventually peaked at number 15 and spent over four months on the charts. Despite Secret Garden's original failing to make the Top 75, "You Raise Me Up" was eventually a hit for someone! Irish crooner, Daniel O'Donnell reached number 22 on the singles chart and number 3 in the independent singles sales chart. A week later he was joined on the independent chart by Brian Kennedy's re-recorded version at number 14. Although the Aled Jones version was scheduled as a single it was never released, but the album "Higher" peaked at number 21. The Josh Groban version has just entered the American Top 100.

Former Song For Europe entrant and Fame Academy participant, Alistair Griffin, has had a good start to his career with the double A side single "Bring It On" & "My Lovers Prayer" (with Robin Gibb) making the Top 5, his debut album peaking at number 12 and the second single, "You & Me Tonight", cracking the Top 20. Looking around the European charts you will find this year Polish entrants, Blue Cafe, at number 3 in their homeland with the album "Demi-Sec" (Pomaton). Rosa is number 2 in the Spanish singles charts with "Don't Stop The Music Baby" and number 1 with the album "Ahora" (Vale). Jill Johnson made the top 5 in

Sweden with her album "Roots & Wings" (Lionheart), whilst Sissel (Kyrkjebo) peaked at number 2 with "My Heart"(Emarcy). Also in Poland Anna Maria Jopek's latest album "Farat" (Izabelin) reached number 2. Former OGAE Song Contest entrant, Tarkan, had a new mini album issued on CD last year. "Dudu" (Istanbul Plak) contains 10 tracks but only five songs! David D'or will be representing Israel in Istanbul has been recording since the early nineties and has even had a single released in the UK before. "Yad Anouga" was issued in 1992 on the Magnet label (MAG 1005) and David's latest single is a dance version of George Michael's "Careless Whisper". It's proving to be a big hit around the Mediterranean.

Although the tour didn't start until March, Lulu's greatest hits CD peaked at number 35 last November so expect some more promotion about the time you read this. She also releases a new album, "Back On Track", followed by the single "Keep Talkin', I'm Listening" to coincide with the tour. Two new Lulu tracks appeared over the Christmas period on different compilation CD's. Her interpretation of "Run Rudolph Run" surfaced on the "I Love Christmas" double CD (Virgin/BBC VTDCDX 560) whilst a rousing "Flower Of Scotland" was included on the Official Album Of Rugby World Cup 2003 "True Colours (The World In Union)" (Virgin VTCD 537). The latter CD also includes "World In Union" performed by the United Colours Of Sound as well as their collaboration with UB40. Amongst the tracks on the new Liberty X album, "Being Somebody" (V2), is "The Poet" which was co-written by Pam Sheyne. Sophie Ellis-Bextor has recently recorded two songs both originally recorded by former Eurovision artists. On her album

“Shoot From The Hip” you will find a hidden track that is her version of “Physical” (a hit for Olivia Newton-John) and on one of the CD singles of “I Won't Change” was her interpretation of the Baccara hit, “Yes Sir I Can Boogie”.

Before Alice Babs entered Eurovision in 1963 she had been part of a trio called the Swe-danes. The other two members were Svend Asmussen and Ulrik Neumann. Together they issued two singles and an EP in the UK and, although they didn't chart here, the trio were a big success in Scandinavia. A new CD compiles their recordings together. “Alice Babs & The Swe-danes” is issued by Harkit (HRKCD 8049) and is distributed by Pinnacle. Mike Tramp (formerly of Mabel and White Lion) has “Rock 'n' Roll Alive” issued in the UK on Ulfone CDUTM 081. Another Katrina & The Waves collection has surfaced called “Original Recordings” and it's available on Nettwerk (CD319652). Although Roger Whittaker has only had seven UK hits he has released six compilations of his hits. Unfortunately, none of them have included his version of his Song For Europe composition “Call My Name”. His latest “Now & Then: Greatest Hits 1964 -2004” (BMG 82876588332) can, at least, live up to its title as it's the first to contain all seven hits. It's also his twelfth chart album and has, so far, reached his highest position since 1989.

Cherry Red records have delved back into the seventies and given an obscure gem a dusting down and issued it onto CD for the first time. “An Eastern Star” (CDMRED 246) was released by Biddu in 1977 and although it didn't contain any of his UK hits it was critically acclaimed by the UK music industry as bringing together a groundbreaking fusion of traditional Indian instruments and disco. As far as I know Biddu never

recorded his Song For Europe composition but “An Eastern Star” will give you an insight into his unique musical sound. Another SFE composer is also the subject of a recent compilation. Roy Wood (1972) has a CD issued titled “Outstanding Performer” (CMQCD 447) that gathers together his recordings on the Jet Label between 1975 and 1976. Later in the year Sanctuary are due to re-issue two of his solo albums on CD, “Eddie & The Falcons” and “Mustard”, whilst a “Definitive Collection” double CD is scheduled for October. The same label also plan to issue a two CD set “Anthology” by Lynsey De Paul.

EMI have re-mastered another four of Cliff's albums from the eighties. “Always Guaranteed” (EMI 5833932) got to number 5 in 1987 and has eight bonus tracks, including the Mal Pope composition “Reunion Of The Heart”. “Dressed For The Occasion” (EMI 5833892) is a live album from 1985 that peaked at number 7 and now has five extra tracks including Cliff's version of “Golden Days” which was a hit for Bucks Fizz. “Stronger” (EMI 5833922) reached number 7 in 1989 and now sports five bonus tracks and, finally, the oddball “The Rock Connection” (EMI 5834022) of mainly rock 'n' roll songs that failed to make the Top 40 in 1984 and now features another six tracks. EMI are also releasing two of Matt Monro's early 70's albums on CD for the first time. “For The Present” and “The Other Side Of The Stars” are together on “For The Present” (EMI 5971762).

Frances Ruffelle has demoed tracks for a new Mike Batt musical titled “Men Who March Away”. Tracks include the original version of the Katie Melua hit “Closest Thing To Crazy”. No word yet if there is to be an official release but keep your eyes peeled her new single

"Smile". Lene (from Aqua) has just released her debut solo album "Play With Me" (Polydor 9865396) as well as the single "It's Your Duty". It's been a long time since her last album but Agnetha Faltskog finally returns with "My Colouring Book". The album is said to contain her versions of songs from the 50's and 60's and the first single to be taken from it is "If I Thought You'd Ever Change Your Mind" which was originally a Top 20 hit for Cilla Black in 1969. Also expect a new re-issue of the "Waterloo" CD to coincide with the 30th Anniversary of ABBA winning in Brighton. The CD is said to include all the foreign language versions of the title track. ABBA also have a live DVD issued which will feature performances from 1979.

Although Andy Gibb had only a handful of hits in the UK he had many more in America. These included "I Can't Help It" which was a duet with Olivia Newton John. Despite it's success it has never appeared on an Olivia Newton John compilation but it can be found on Andy Gibb's "Millennium Collection" (Universal 3145890602). Olivia issued an album of duets in 2002 including collaborations with Darren Hayes and Tina Arena. The album is simply titled "(2)" and sees her return to Festival Records who issued "If Not For You" over 30 years ago. Celine Dion's latest single is "Tout L'or Des Hommes" (Sony COL 6742511). Bernie Nolan made her Top 40 debut as a solo artist with "Macushla" performed in 'The Bill'.

Not content with having conquered the jungle (and Jordan!) and also having a song in this years Cypriot final, Peter Andre stormed to the top of the UK charts with a re-issue of "Mysterious Girl". The song reached number 2 in 1996 after failing to reach the Top 40 in the previous year. Peter Andre had 10 UK chart singles (including two number

1's) and two chart albums. Peter Andre was also due to appear on a single with fellow jungle dwellers, Mike Read, Neil Ruddock and Lord Brockett but his name isn't credited on the CD. The release is a double A side of "Jungle Rock" and "The Lion Sleeps Tonight" and will only be available in Woolworth's. However, both singles are raising money for charity. Good on ya sport!

When I reviewed the French and Italian compilations of Sandie Shaw's recordings I said that all we needed was a Spanish CD to complete the set and guess what? EMI are to release a Spanish CD ("Marionetas En La Cuerda" EMI 5988362) and a German CD ("Weidehopf Im Ma" EMI 5988352). Three cheers for EMI! Meanwhile BMG are set to re-issue all of Bucks Fizz's four albums originally released on RCA. Three of these will be making their debut on CD and all have bonus tracks. Amongst the tracks found on "Floorfillers 2" (Universal) is this year's German preselection entry "Jigga Jigga". Three of this year's UK preselection artists have previously had singles released. Haifa released a version of the Toni Braxton hit "Unbreak My Heart" in August 2002 but, despite good reviews and a lot of airplay, it failed to chart. It was released on W10/Incentive WTEN 009CD. Anthony Scott-Lee is a member of Hyrise and his former group, 3SL, had two Top 20 hits in 2002 with "Take It Easy" (number 11) and "Touch Me Tease Me" (number 16). Haydon (Eshun) was part of Ultimate Kaos who scored six hits between 1994 and 1996. They also spent a single week in the album chart with their self-titled album. Haydon was also part of the "Reborn In The USA" show and recorded two songs for the album that accompanied the show (Universal 038284-2). Finally, good luck

to James Fox in Istanbul. Look out for possible future collaborations with his former Academy rival, Alistair Griffin.

That's all for now. I hope you enjoy this years contest in Istanbul.

PS!

Before I finally leave you to enjoy the rest of this issue, on my recent travels I have unearthed several Cliff Richard curios. Firstly, it appears that Hank Marvin wrote "The Day I Met Marie" for A Song For Europe. In 1991 Cliff released a single in Germany called "To A Friend", the song was a duet with Alexander Mezek. It was released on a 7", 12" and CD single on the Mercury label (878 736-7/1/2). In last years Cliff special I speculated on potential material for a Cliff In Europe compilation and it seems as if the idea nearly came to fruition in the Netherlands in 1973! For some reason "Power To All Our Friends" the album appears to have only been issued in Holland, but it contains all six 1973 SFE entries plus "High 'N' Dry" from 1968. Four of the remaining tracks date from 1972 and the other one is another Guy Fletcher and Doug Flett composition that dates from 1971. The album was issued on EMI (5C 062.05355). The other Cliff curio that I came across isn't actually by Cliff but a soundalike! "Power To All Our Friends (Cliff's

Greatest Hits Medley Version)" is performed by The Sixties and was issued in 1981. It appears to be of German origin although the single appears to have had a UK issue (Decca CLIFF 1). Alongside the 1973 ESC entry are "Blue Turns To Grey", "Don't Talk To Him", "The Day I Met Marie", "Spanish Harlem" and "Devil Woman".

Former Shadow, Hank Marvin, played guitar on Jane McDonald's first solo single "You're My World" in 1998. Another curiosity I found was "Beautiful to Me" by Peter Rawes featuring Jet Harris (who also used to be in The Shadows). The single was released in 1988 on Dalta Records (Dalta 2) and refers to the song as "Eurovision Entrant 1984". Can anyone shed any further light on this?

Although there was never a follow up to Sweet Dreams "I'm Never Giving Up", Carrie from the trio did join her husband David Grant on the charity single "Ain't No Stopping Us Now" (credited to the MOBO Allstars) in 1998 (Polygram TV 563 230-2). Finally we all know that Sam Blue was in Esseness before he went solo but prior to that did you know that he was the lead singer with Ultravox? Once Midge Ure left the band Sam Blue replaced him on "Ingenuity" released in 1994. For those of you wishing to check out this album it was re-issued in 2002 on the Puzzle label PZLCD 105 (through Pinnacle).

EUROCAT IS SERVED

A pleasant little number, vintage 2000+, 72 pages well stuffed with 7" rarities galore and bargains on the side. CD compilation dishes, 6 for 10 pounders, the press and programmes menu and much more. Very tasty! A superb choice.

Rush me £1.80 in cash/stamps or 3 IRC's and I'll send you the finest catalogue of Eurovision goodies you've ever seen. Whether you're starting your collection or have practically everything, you cannot afford to miss this!

Frank Robinson, 4 Drève des Hêtres, Beau Site, 1330 Rixensart, Belgium

OGAE Song Contest 2003

The annual OGAE Song Contest was held a few weeks before Christmas last year, having been delayed several times by a series of problems that beset the UK organisers. However, not to be beaten by such happenings, 28 songs competed in the event that was held in Southampton on 12th December 2003. Each and every song was of an extremely high standard and it was difficult for anyone to pick a potential winner. Regrettably Iceland was unable to present their votes on time and was removed from the contest during the closing stages. Germany and France led the early stages of the voting, rivalled at times by FYR Macedonia, Greece and Israel. By the midway stage Sweden had taken the lead, but France continued to score consistently and developed an unassailable lead on the scoreboard. Congratulations are therefore offered to France, who ultimately won the event with the song "Cassé" performed by Nolwenn Leroy.



Country	Song	Performer	Pts	Pos
Croatia	"Leti Do Snova"	Jelena Radan	60	11 th
Slovenia	"Pesek V Oči"	Nuša Derenda	64	9 th
Belgium	"Tu Es Mon Autre"	Lara Fabian & Maurane	40	15 th
Italy	"Gocce Di Memoria"	Giorgia	83	7 th
Russia	"Ne Ostavljaj Menia ..."	V.I.A Gra	72	8 th
Ireland	"More Than A Ghost"	Luan Plarre	60	12 th
France	"Cassé"	Nolwenn Leroy	184	1 st
Finland	"Seurataan Johtajaa"	Anna Eriksson	11	23 rd
FYR Macedonia	"Srce Preku Neboto"	Vlado Janevski	31	17 th
Iceland	"Ég Sjálf"	Írafár	---	---
Turkey	"Şarkı Söylemek Lazım"	Sezen Aksu	44	14 th
Germany	"Tanz!"	Katharina Wolff	101	6 th
Switzerland	"Das Isch Das"	Autseid	1	27 th
Greece	"S'agapo"	Marianta Pieridi	120	5 th
Norway	"Mysteriet Deg"	Bjørn Eidsvåg	62	10 th
Serbia & Montenegro	"Verujem"	Natasa Radovanovic	23	20 th
Austria	"In Oaner Ondren Welt"	Seer	10	24 th
Sweden	"När Löven Fallar"	Carola	151	2 nd
Luxembourg	"Fänk Mech Op"	ODC	8	26 th
Estonia	"Sära Nagu Täht"	Nightlight Duo	26	18 th
Malta	"Xita fid-Dezert"	Charlene & Natasha	22	21 st
Spain	"Cómo Pude"	Merche	131	3 rd
Portugal	"Tu És Meu"	Ana Malhoa	45	13 th
United Kingdom	"No Good Advice"	Girls Aloud	25	19 th
Israel	"Le'alef Namer"	Rita	37	16 th
Netherlands	"Ik Wou Dat Ik Jou Was"	Veldhuis & Kemper	18	22 nd
Lithuania	"Naktinis Trio"	Donalda	9	25 th
Denmark	"Hvert Minut"	Søren Poppe	128	4 th

Larger Than Life!

Although OGAE (UK) are currently negotiating arrangements to continue with a national final to select its entry in future OGAE Song Contests, the 2004 entry has been chosen by an internal panel who decided that the choice should be reflected by a British public vote! As such, Michelle McManus will represent the United Kingdom with the song "All This Time"



As British readers will know, Michelle McManus has defied the odds in becoming the UK's second 'Pop Idol' at the end of 2003. Larger than life in every way, even her first audition caused the expert panel to question her ability to become a star. The infamous Simon Cowell supported her from the start, Nicky Chapman did not see her as an obvious winner and Pete Waterman claimed she was only receiving public sympathy.

Not to be outdone, Michelle reached the final 12 and started to appear weekly on British television screens. The media were divided, with some ardently supporting the Scottish lass while others became personally critical in their comments. But as each week passed Michelle's performances only grew stronger and she amazed the judges with her interpretations of "On The Radio" and "The Meaning Of Love".

For the final show Michelle went head to head with her fellow finalist, Mark Rhodes, and both performed "All This Time" which had been specially written for the show. The two versions were extremely good, but the public were clearly on the side of Michelle who subsequently won the televote with a massive majority. Michelle wept when she heard the result, exclaiming "to all of you who said I'd never do it - I've done it!"

A few weeks later, at the start of 2004, Michelle's debut single was released and went straight to number one. This accomplishment also earned her a place in the 'Guinness Book of Records' as the first Scottish female singer to debut at the top of the music charts.

Steve Mac, Wayne Hector and Alistair Tennant, who have provided songs for a number of acts, including Westlife, have written "All This Time" which now travels to Lyon, France for the OGAE Song Contest 2004 later this year.

Sorrell Song Contest 2003



Mark Sorrell's reports that the 2003 SSC was a great success, not least because it was won by the United Kingdom and Sarah Brightman, who also won the 1999 edition. Sarah's pure yet powerful voice is still one of the most underestimated with the British music industry, but fortunately her fame has spread throughout the world and anyone checking her tour schedule will see how far reaching her appearances have become. Congratulations, therefore, are offered to Sarah who will hopefully soon receive the total recognition that she deserves in her home country. For further information about SSC and how to get involved, please write to Mark Sorrell, 5 Cherry Chase, Tiptree, near Colchester, Essex CO5 0AE remembering to enclose an IRC/SAE.

Country	Song	Performer	Pts	Pos
Sweden	"Evig Kärlek"	Nanne Grönvall	91	6 th
Morocco	"Kan Mali"	Samira Said	38	16 th
Latvia	"So High"	F.L.Y.	111	3 rd
Israel	"Chuppi Chuppi"	Lior Narkis	28	22 nd
Germany	"Golden Key"	Isgaard	31	19 th
Norway	"Bli Hos Meg"	Dina	117	2 nd
USA	"I've Got You"	Catherine Porter	76	8 th
Egypt	"Wehyati"	Ghada Ragab	36	18 th
Russia	"Mama"	Prime Ministr	45	15 th
Belgium	"Galicia"	Urban Trad	56	11 th
Croatia	"Ko Me Zove"	Magazin	58	10 th
Portugal	"Nao Ha Pior Inferno Que O Amor"	Rita Guerra feat. Ovelha Negra	28	21 st
Turkey	"Kumsalda"	Sertab Erener	24	23 rd
Estonia	"Let Me Be The One"	Alternature feat. Evelin Samuel	49	13 th
Libya	"Inta Ana"	Cheb Jilani	9	25 th
France	"Je L'aime En Secret"	Lââm & Jay	55	12 th
Slovenia	"Saki Saki"	Sestre	22	24 th
Netherlands	"Rauw (Ik Lust Je)"	Sasja Brouwers	61	9 th
Lithuania	"Gera Daina"	Asta Pilypaite	86	7 th
Bosnia Herz.	"Mac Sa Ostrice Dvije"	Amila Glamocak	47	14 th
Greece	"To Paizeis Sexy"	Sabrina	29	20 th
Bulgaria	"Kolko Mi Lipsvash"	Karizma	97	5 th
Serbia & Monte.	"39.2 (Body Temperature)"	Ceca	37	17 th
United Kingdom	"Until The End Of Time"	Sarah Brightman	119	1 st
Spain	"Mi Razòn De Vivir"	Ainhoa	100	4 th

ESC On Line

by Martin Faulkner

Welcome to the pre-contest edition of ESC Online. Inevitably, thoughts are turning towards Istanbul and the forthcoming week of Eurovision heaven, and with this in mind, our first stop is the official ESC 2004 site at www.eurovision.tv. The last time I mentioned this URL it was still under construction, but now the site is active in all its glory, with information about the participants, the venue, mock-ups of the stage, quizzes and all kinds of other goodies.

Of course, the United Kingdom will be represented by James Fox this year, and I'm pleased to say that he has an extremely comprehensive fan site at <http://james-fox.moonfruit.com>. Of course, the fan perspective means that it's not necessarily the most objective source on the 'net, but it's an impressive resource for an "amateur" venture, with loads of pictures, sound and video clips, and a regularly updated news section. No doubt they'll be extra busy in the run-up to Istanbul!

And here are a few more ESC 2004 artist sites for the pot:

Xandee

www.xandee.be

Blue Café

www.bluecafe.art.pl

Jari Sillanpää

www.jarisillanpaa.com

Zeljko Joksimovic

www.zeljkojoksimovic.com

Lisa Andreas

www.foxrecordsltd.co.uk/lisa.htm

If you're looking for the lyrics to the 2004 entries for that all-important ESC karaoke evening, the best port of call might just be Diggiloo, which has relocated since the last time I mentioned it and can now be found at

www.diggiloo.net. While the main focus of the site remains English-language translations of ESC entries through the ages - and a very impressive archive it is too - it now also features all of the 2004 lyrics (plus translations, of course!).

If you're looking for some ESC-related background noise while you surf for news of this year's contest, you could do worse than check out the various radio stations available to stream at live365.com.

Searching for "Eurovision" or "ESC" should get you a few hits - the one I tend to listen to is at www.live365.com/stations/253816

You have to sign up before you can listen, but it's a fairly painless process, and then you can just sit back, relax and enjoy the music...

One general ESC site that I don't think I've mentioned before, and that is coming into its own in the current season, is www.eurovision-db.com. As the name suggests, it markets itself as a Eurovision database of sorts, and accordingly it's a real goldmine of information, both past and present - if sometimes a little random in what it does and doesn't cover. The modern, fairly intuitive design is a plus point, though.

And finally, in the grand old tradition of News At Ten, some light relief. For me, the revelation of this year's national final season has been Dwain and Anne's site at www.aloofhosting.com/dwain-anne/home.htm. There's no point in me even *trying* to describe it - suffice to say that, if you like your humour surreal, this could just be the place for you!

And that's all for this time. As ever, feel free to contact me at m.d.faulkner@hamburg.de with any questions or suggestions for this column.

Happy surfing!

Euro Curios

From across the sea, Thomas Latham returns with some more curiosities related to the world of Eurovision!

Well, I'm in America again, but, to misquote from "Blue Peter", here's a column I prepared earlier.

This time we'll start with posing the same question about a couple of artists. What was the first SFE entry to be recorded by the Nolan Sisters? No, it wasn't 1979's "Harry, My Honolulu Lover", it was in fact 1974's "Have Love Will Travel". Their cover version of Olivia Newton-John's song was released in 1975 as the B side to "Make A Little Sunshine" on Target Records (TGT103). In 1981 the single was re-released in Japan with a picture insert and the lyrics on WTP-17229. Due to their enormous success in that market, it also appeared on their 1984 album "Harmony" (KCBR 1024) with a number of other Roger Greenaway penned tracks, as well as on the CD "The Nolans – Super Best Hits" (which unfortunately seems to have been deleted).

Now let's ask that question again for someone else, shall we? What was the first SFE entry to be recorded by Nicki French? I bet you thought you knew the answer this time, but no, it wasn't "Don't Play That Song Again". It was actually Des Dyer's "Energy", which came 4th in 1985 (and was written by Des and Clive Scott long after their Jigsaw days). Retitled "Voice Of America" it appeared on her 1995 "Secrets" album, though no one seems to know why. Perhaps we need another interview with Nicki to get the story behind this SFE cover version. Thanks to Paul Toseland for spotting that one and passing on the information.

Speaking of cover versions of SFE songs that have turned up in strange places, Carl Magnus Palm's 2002 book on ABBA "Bright Lights, Dark Shadows" contains some interesting information on Frida's 1982/83 versions of "Here We'll Stay" from SFE 1980 (sung by Sonia Jones it came 11th). The song was described by producer Phil Collins, who also duetted with Frida on the track, as "a complete lapse of taste" on his part, and "hideous". While working on it in 1982, he was persuaded to do it as a duet, but soon realised that the key was too high for him, and too low for Frida, but by then he was committed to do it and had no choice but to finish the recording. However, when a decision was made to release it as a single in 1983, he put his foot down saying "No way! I don't wanna be associated with this as a single." To wriggle out of it, he used the excuse that his own record companies around the world would never agree to its release, and so, in April 1983, Frida re-recorded vocals for a solo version, made a video, released the song, and watched it sink without trace. So, now you have to buy both the album and the single to get both versions.

Did you know that Paul Mauriat released an EP in Australia in the late 1960s called "Love Is Blue" (Philips PE-71). As well as the title track, it contained "Puppet On A String", "Love In Every Room (Même Si Tu Revenais)", and "The Spring (La Source)". Well, you do now.

It recently occurred to me that since Q-feel's 1982 song "Dancing in Heaven (Orbital Be-Pop)" (6th) was a minor hit in America, it ought to be available on CD over there, and sure enough it is. Over the years there have been at least thirteen compilation CDs with the song, the most recent of which was "Then: Totally Oldies '80s, Vol. 5" on Varese

Records, released in April last year. Perhaps of most interest is the 1983 release of the album "Q-Feel" containing eight tracks just by the band themselves. Of course that CD is no longer available (though it's a surprise to me it ever was), so instead why not try "New Wave Hits Of The '80s – Vol. 9" on Rhino Records (R2 71702), which is where I found it. Incidentally, this song is surely one of the most out of place in any SFE, and performed first as it was in 1982 must have confused the hell out of an audience expecting to see and hear eight Bucks Fizz clones. An early opportunity to get 'nul points' missed I think.

The Swarbriggs' 1975 ESC entry "That's What Friends Are For" was released in the UK on MCA (MCA 179), but curiously the record has the catalogue number EMI 5013 on it. Does anyone know if any copies exist with that number on the record label?

Kenneth McKellar (ESC 66) has always seemed a strange choice by the BBC for their Eurovision artist. He had no 'pop' career and seemed out of place in the contest by 1966. However, he was a fine and well-respected singer, not only for his renditions of traditional Scottish folk songs, but also as a classical artist. In respect of the latter, I recently came across a CD of a 1961 recording of Handel's "Messiah" (Decca – 289 467 401-2) featuring the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Sir Adrian Boult, and with Dame Joan Sutherland singing soprano and Kenneth McKellar as tenor. It's not the best recording of the piece in my opinion, but worth listening to if only for its peculiar connection to the ESC.

CDs that have recently been released that might be of interest to some of you include Anne Shelton's recent EMI compilation (584 015 2), which features a selection of her recordings for them

from 1954-1957, although sadly none of her songs from the Festival of British Popular Songs appear. Teddy Johnson's two duets with Jo Stafford have finally been released on CD. You'll find "There's A Small Hotel" and "The Moment I Saw You" on "Meet Jo Stafford" (Sepia 1014). Apparently the singers recorded their parts separately and these were then spliced together by EMI, which must be one of the earliest examples of this technique. The American singer Joni James's cover versions of "Al Di La", "Ciao Ciao Bambina" and "Volare (Nel Blu Di Pinto Di Blu)" have recently been released on a CD entitled "Italianissime! Folk Songs" on EMI-Capitol's Collector's Choice series (72435-42267-2-4).

Finally, an update on a previous column. I asked for information on The Rainmakers' "Nobody Knows". Well, everybody can relax! Apparently it's not the SFE song and the National Sound Archive have it all wrong (so what else is new).

If you have any information about releases that may be of interest to others, or even just questions, then please drop me a line: Thomas Latham, 286 Russell Court, Woburn Place, London WC1H 0NF.

(Thanks this issue to Paul Toseland and Richard Crane)



Don't forget!

Convention and Retrospective forms are both located in the middle pages

Don't delay! Complete yours today!

Record Reviews

ANUNA *Winter Songs*
Danu 016

This new compilation features classic songs like "Away In A Manager", "Pie Jesu" and "O Holy Night" all performed in Anuna's unique style. Although some tracks date from ten years ago none of the songs feature Eimear Quinn. Something soothing to help you through the hectic festive season! RC

JOHN CARTER *Measure For Measure – The John Carter Anthology* 1961-77
RPM D268

Although you may not recognise the name immediately, you will know the songs of John Carter. Among the songs he has written and/or performed are "Funny How Love Can Be" and "Tossing & Turning" (both Top 10 hits for the Ivy League in 1965), "Let's Go To San Francisco" (number 4 in 1967 for the Flowerpot Men), "Sunshine Girl" and "My Sentimental Friend" (number 8 in 1968 and number 2 in 1969 respectively for Herman's Hermits) and "Beach Baby" which got to number 13 in 1974. This collection features many of these songs, some as you remember and others in the original demo form that John presented to the artists prior to recording. One such demo is "Knock Knock Who's There" which he co-wrote with Geoff Stephens. John's version is more substantial than the Mary Hopkin

recording and has a better arrangement, in my view. This double CD is packed full of great songs and it even includes a few adverts that John penned and/or sung amongst the 55 tracks. Although Eurovision fans may feel that it's not worth buying this superb compilation for just one track, it is the musical equivalent of "This Is Your Life" and is crammed full of songs that you can cherish forever. RC

ALISTAIR GRIFFIN *Bring It On* Universal 9816116

The former member of Pulse who failed to find success in 'A Song For Europe' took the 'Fame Academy' route and came up trumps with this accomplished album. The majority of the songs are written by Alistair, although his cover versions of "Jealous Guy" and "Everything I Own" sound equally at home amongst the originals. Apparently Alistair has re-recorded "Fade Away" but it didn't make it to the album. Fans of the title track and his duet with Robin Gibb, "My Lovers Prayer", will not be disappointed. RC

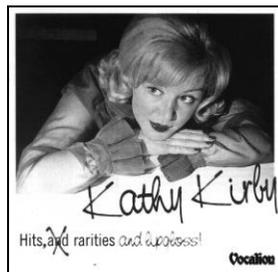
JOSH GROBAN *Closer* 143/Reprise 9362486102

Josh Groban's second album has taken the world by storm and it's easy to see why. Josh Groban combines classical training with pop sensibilities and produces music that appeals to people of all ages and creeds. The tracks on this stunning CD feature the Lara Fabian composition "Broken Vow" and his soaring version of Secret Garden's "You Raise

Me Up". Other highlights include "Hymne A L'amour" and a collaboration with Deep Forest: "Never Let Go". An album of outstanding beauty. RC

GUYS'N'DOLLS *There's A Whole Lot Of Loving* BR Music BX 427-2

Yet another re-packaging of tracks from Guys 'N' Dolls early years. Although a few tracks from the early 80's are included, the majority of the songs are taken from the group's first two albums. However the CD does feature 20 tracks and three of their UK hit singles. Probably for fans only but still worth a listen. RC



KATHY KIRBY *Hits, Rarities & Lipgloss* Vocalion CDLK 4215

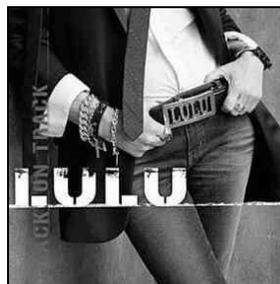
Once again Vocalion have come up trumps with this long awaited release. Not only does this CD contain nineteen tracks making their (legitimate) CD debut, but also included are Kathy Kirby's six Song For Europe entries. Although "I Belong" and "I'll Try Not To Cry" have both appeared on CD before those versions have always been the ones used for release as the A and B sides of her Eurovision entry. I never realised, until reading

the informative sleeve notes, that "I'll Try Not To Cry" had been re-recorded for single release. So here we have the original, less bombastic, EP versions, alongside "Sometimes", "My Only Love" (written by Dusty Springfield's brother), "I Won't Let You Go" and "One Day" (written by Chris Andrews and later recorded by Sandie Shaw). At the start of the sleeve notes is an introduction written by Kathy Kirby in which she picks out "Sometimes" as being one of her favourite tracks from her "Song For Europe" songs and it's easy to see why. It's difficult to tell if it would have won Eurovision, but it's still an exceptional song. I have to admit that I prefer Sandie Shaw's more wistful recording of "One Day" but that's not a reflection on Kathy's arrangement of the song, which is more uptempo. Among the remaining tracks are two tracks that are previously unreleased from the Decca vaults, an alternative version of "Happiness Street" (originally featured on "Make Someone Happy") and "Soon I'll Wed My Love" which was included on a various artists album called "14 Great Artists". This is the first time it has been included on any Kathy Kirby album and marks its debut on CD. Other tracks new to CD include "There's No Other Love" from the EP "Kathy Kirby Vol.2" and "Bye Bye Birdie" which was originally only available as an American B side until it appeared on "The World Of Kathy Kirby" in 1970. Kathy recorded all these tracks

between 1963 and 1966 and by calculations there are at least another 11 songs that were commercially released during that period. If you add to those the 13 tracks that appeared on the long deleted "Secret Love" CD that is no longer available then there is enough for a second volume of Kathy Kirby "Hits, Rarities and Lipgloss". I'm not sure what else is in Decca's vaults but it would be great if any future releases included the single version of "I'll Try Not To Cry" and the Italian version of "I Belong" but this is all testament to the strength and quality of Kathy Kirby's recordings. Although she was often compared to Marilyn Monroe I prefer to think that Kathy Kirby was a unique vocal talent and I think this CD justifies that. An essential purchase. RC

LENE *Play With Me*
Polydor Denmark 9865396
In case you're wondering ... Lene is the former lead singer with Aqua who went into self destruct mode as the Copenhagen interval act. Two years later she resurfaces as a solo artist and her debut album is impressive. There's nothing 'cute' about the music here. Lene has re-emerged as a far stronger singer and songwriter. The opening track is full of Turkish influence and could have easily been a Sertab track. The title track is built around a heavy metal guitar riff, whilst "Bad Coffee" wouldn't sound out of place on the Evanescence album. Yes, Lene means business. Imagine the attitudes of Pink,

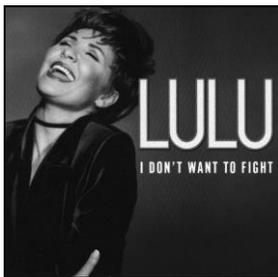
Nanne, Christina (at her dirtiest) and Britney (ditto) all mixed together and you get one of the funkiest, edgy, dirty and, surprisingly, good albums around! However, my favourite track has to be the single "It's Your Duty" which includes the memorable line "handcuff up your boss, he might like it". Go 'shock your mama'! RC



LULU *Back On Track*
Mercury 9866136

It's been a long wait, but this is Lulu's first album of original material since 1991's "Independence". As the title says she's "Back On Track". From the storming opening track, "Keep Talking.. I'm Listening" written by Bryan Adams, you know that Lulu has changed musical lanes again. Whilst "Independence" was more soul and dance "Back On Track" is rock and pop. Unfortunately, despite a lot of TV, press, radio and a sold out tour, the album has failed to take off yet. The first single scheduled from the album was the tender ballad "All The Love In The World" but that was shelved. The next single was due to be the Bryan Adams song, but that too appears to have been dropped. It's amazing that

songs of this quality are no longer seen as potential hits. Other standout tracks include "Slow Motion" (another rocker co-written by Pam Sheyne), the Al Green soundalike "Supernatural" (co-written by Lulu), "Time To Fall" (which would make a great club track) and "(If You Wanna) Kiss And Tell" on which Lulu sounds like Britney Spears! The only downside to the album is her decision to re-record the autobiographical "Where The Poor Boys Dance". The original was perfect and whilst I can understand why artists want to re-record songs, the changing of the third and fourth lines is unforgivable as it changes the whole meaning of the song. The first 11 tracks are amongst Lulu's finest recordings but ignore track 12 and play the single instead. If there's any justice this album will spawn several hit singles and be a big seller, but when it comes to the music business miracles rarely happen. Lulu may be back on track but the industry derailed her train before it left the station! RC



LULU *I Don't Want To Fight*
Dome CD 40
This 16 track compilation is aimed at the American

market and features her six UK hits for Dome in the mid-nineties. Although all of these tracks have appeared on previous compilations in the UK seven of the songs were previously unreleased in America. If you don't already own "Independence" and the "I'm Back For More" compilation then this is a worthwhile purchase. RC

LULU *The Very Best Of ...*
EMI Australia 8143292
Whilst on holiday I discovered this little gem. Released in 1995 it's a great overview of Lulu's career prior to her re-emergence in the early nineties and features original recordings from all stages of her career. From Decca we have "Shout" and "Leave A Little Love", ten tracks from her EMI career including, of course, "To Sir With Love" and her ESC winner. The next three songs are taken from material recorded whilst she was with Atlantic / Atco. "Oh Me Oh My (I'm A Fool For You Baby)" is an often overlooked classic but "Hum A Song (From Your Heart)" and "Melody Fair" are just as good. "Melody Fair" makes it CD debut here and was written by the Bee Gees. "Hum A Song" can also be found on the American compilation "From Crayons To Perfume" (Rhino) but has yet to find it's way onto a UK CD. These gems are followed by the powerful "Man Who Sold The World" and two tracks originally recorded for Elton John's Rocket label. "If I Were You" makes its CD debut whilst every fan knows the beautiful "I Could Never Miss You".

The latter song was Lulu's second biggest American hit, reaching number 18, and it was a minor UK hit during Christmas 1981. Although there's nothing of interest here for Eurovision collectors this compilation will be a welcome addition to any Lulu fan's collection. RC

OLIVIA NEWTON JOHN (2)
Festival Australia 336022

For reasons beyond my comprehension few of Olivia's albums seem to get a UK release these days and, although this album is mainly a collection of duets with fellow Australians, there's no reason why it shouldn't be a success here. Although most people will recognise the names Darren Hayes, Tina Arena and Human Nature, many of her fellow singers are new to me. Even though the majority of singers are Australian, Michael McDonald and Richard Marx have been declared honorary natives by Olivia for this CD! The opening track is a rocky duet with Keith Urban and Olivia sounds more like Bonnie Tyler on this great song. When she joins Darren Hayes they become Savage Garden Mark 2, a bit like Roxette without the guitars. Other highlights include the country tinged "Tenterfield Saddle" with Peter Allen and the country rocker "Bad About You" with Billy Thorpe. My favourite track though is the ballad "Never Far Away" which Olivia performs with Richard Marx. This is a great album and Olivia's vocals have never sounded so good. The only thing that's missing is Cliff! RC



ONE *Onira* EMI Greece 5973292

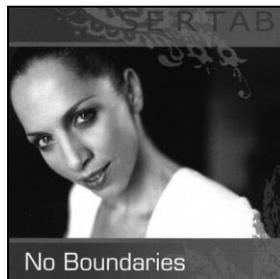
The English title of this album is "Dreams" and it must be a dream come true for One. The future must have looked a little doubtful after the departure of Constantinos, but this is the group's best album to date. The addition of Kyriakos Zymboulakis has breathed a new life into the group as the whole sound is much more polished. I don't how this has fared against previous One releases but right from the opening song (the title track) you can hear the difference. "Onira" is a beautiful song and I'd love to hear an English version, "Krata Me" (Hold Me) has shades of Richard Marx's "Hazard" whilst "An Mporousa" (If I Could) reminds me of "Conquistador" (PT89). Add an impressive version of "Last Christmas" and you have an album full of varied styles yet well balanced. My favourite track is "Isos Na 'Magapises" (You May Have Loved Me) where the vocals sound like Enrique Iglesias on this emotional ballad. This is still One, but they're definitely 'new and improved'. RC

SECRET GARDEN
Dreamcatcher Universal

/Emarcy Classics Australia 9815960

Although this album was reviewed when it was originally released in the UK four years ago, this is an updated version which only appears to have been released in Australia and Asia. Despite its failure to provide Secret Garden with a hit single in the UK the worldwide success of "You Raise Me Up" has brought the duo a whole new audience. On the back of this Secret Garden are playing dates around the world and this revised issue of "Dreamcatcher" gives their new audience a perfect overview of Secret Garden's recordings so far. The first ten tracks are exactly the same as the UK issue of "Dreamcatcher". Of the next ten tracks two were also on the original, two are taken from "Once In A Red Moon" (including "You Raise Me Up"), one is from their debut album, one from "Dawn Of A New Century" and three have been taken from, the often overlooked "White Stones". Eagle eyed readers will, of course see that adds up to nine. The tenth track is "I Know A Rose Tree". Although it was recorded in 1998 with Anuna and the RTE Orchestra it has, until now, failed to be included on any Secret Garden album. It was added as a bonus CD to later pressings of "Songs From A Secret Garden" but this is the first time it's been included as part of an album. "I Know A Rose Tree" is, incidentally, the only cover version that Secret Garden have recorded. If you already have "Dreamcatcher" and/or

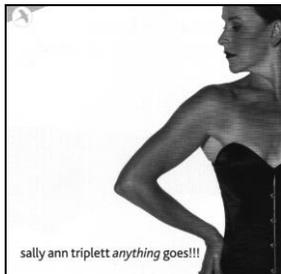
all the duo's other CD's then you may not think that this CD is worth purchasing, but I would recommend it. It's always worth taking another look when a garden is replanted as beautifully as this one. RC



SERTAB *No Boundaries* Sony Turkey 513648-2

This is Sertab's first English language album and it's no surprise that it includes "Everyway That I Can". Two of the eleven songs are new versions of Turkish tracks that she has previously released. "Leave" is a great version of "Ask" (also recorded as a duet with Mando) but I think I prefer the original, although the English version is no less emotional. The other previously released track is "Back To The Beach" which is taken from one of her early albums. Unfortunately this highlights the reason why some songs are best left in their original language. "Back To The Beach" has transformed into the sort of hideous sing-a-long holiday song that was so popular in the mid eighties! Thankfully the rest of the album is excellent. "Here I Am" and "Breathe In Deeper" are similar in feel to "Everyway That I Can" and retain that

Eastern feel. All these tracks keep that Sertab 'sound' yet each one still sounds different. No one has been able to continue traveling the path that Ofra Haza started but Sertab has built a link to it and continued moving forward. Given the UK's recent love affair with Bhangra music the time has never been more right for Sertab. Music is about passion and "No Boundaries" is full of it. The only track that's missing is her unique interpretation of "One More Cup Of Coffee" but that's easily forgiven with an album this good. RC



SALLY ANN TRIPLETT
Sally Ann Triplett Jay
CDJAY 8011

SALLY ANN TRIPLETT
Anything Goes Jay CDJAY
1373

ORIGINAL CAST
RECORDING Anything
Goes First Night CASTCD
90

The information on these CD's is pretty confusing. "Sally Ann Triplett" was, according to the inlay recorded in 2002 and released in 2003. It contains nine tracks from various shows that Sally Ann has appeared in, including "Anything Goes", "Cats", "Rags", "Oliver", "Cabaret",

"Grease" and "We Will Rock You". Unfortunately five of these songs are also included on the "Anything Goes" album. It would appear that some of these tracks are the same recordings, although this inlay says the tracks were recorded in 2003. However the CD says that they were produced in 1996 and also adds "Original Cast Recording" to the title. Which it is clearly not as the Original Cast Recording is released on First Night!

All that aside the performances here are varied. The songs on the first album have far more vigour and sound brighter. The second CD is overlong with 16 tracks, which seem to favour ballads. There is no doubting the powerful vocal performance Sally Ann gives on this CD but the songs seem to melt into each other and subsequently you find your mind drifting rather than listening to the performances. I wanted so much to enjoy this album but it all felt too 'clinical'. Individually all of the songs are fine but together they lack passion, unlike the Original Cast Recording of "Anything Goes". Here Sally Ann Triplett's vocals really shine. Why oh why don't her other recordings sound like this? I went to see the show in January and it is truly fantastic and this CD will bring back all those happy memories that only an outstanding stage musical can give you. There is nothing wrong with Sally Ann Triplett's voice but let's hope her next album has more warmth. RC

VARIOUS Eurovision
Making Your Mind Up
BBC/Sony Promo

Highly sought after, this release features all six songs from the British heat for Eurovision 2004. The songs are the original and complete studio recordings that preceded the live appearances and shows. All six confirm that 'Making Your Mind Up' has to be one of the strongest UK finals for many years – perhaps ever! Although not commercially available, BBC officials have indicated that they would like to see a wider release in future years, perhaps combining national finalists with less typical previous entries on a compilation album. GL

VARIOUS Fame Academy
Bee Gees Special Polydor
9865586

VARIOUS Fame Academy
The Finalists Polydor
9865835

Several months before 'Making Your Mind Up', James Fox had already recorded tracks for the two albums that accompanied 'Fame Academy 2003'. The first, as the title suggests, brings together songs written by the world famous Gibb brothers. Each of the thirteen students perform a Bee Gees composition, James's being "More Than A Woman". On the second album the three finalists are featured, but a bonus track includes "Somewhere In My Heart" by James Fox. Cover versions do not always appeal, but any Foxy fan would not want to be without these albums! GL



VARIOUS *Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2003*
EMI/CMC 5920662

Released to coincide with last November's inaugural event held in Copenhagen, this album brings together all 16 competing songs together with the JESC theme tune. While some songs clearly sound like child prodigies, others have a more mature sound that could easily rival entries from the adult show. In particular FYROM and Belgium stand out to this reviewer! Considering that only a few songs found here were released as singles, this is probably the only way to purchase all 16! GL

VARIOUS *Paris Au Feminin*
Universal 584358-2

Fans of French music will welcome this collection that includes tracks by Brigitte Bardot, Dalida, Catherine Deneuve and Jane Birkin, none of which are the 'obvious' songs. For instance "Je Suis Venu Te Dire Que Je M'en Vais" by Jane Birkin dates from 1992 and is the most recent recording on here. That track, along with another three, was composed by Serge Gainsbourg (who also composed "Black & White Blues"). France Gall is represented here not with

her ESC winner but "Ne Sais Pas Si Bete" from 1963, Nana Mouskouri's song dates from 1981 but the real "prize" here is the original recording of the 1977 winner "L'oiseau et L'enfant" by Marie Myriam. Most recent releases have featured a re-recording. It's a pity that there's no room for Corrine Hermes, Lara Fabian or Vicky Leandros but this is an enjoyable compilation worth seeking out. RC

MARK WYNTER *Warmth Of Wynter* Vocalion CDLK 4191

Although there have been several compilations of Mark Wynter's Pye recordings this is the first (official) compilation of his Decca recordings. Despite four Top 40 hits during 1960 and 1961 neither his EP, "Mark Time", or the LP, "Warmth Of Wynter", charted. One of those four hits was his 1961 Song For Europe entry "Dream Girl" which reached number 27 in March 1961. This collection features that song as well as all the tracks from his LP, EP and all seven singles that he released whilst with Decca. Unfortunately (and unusually for Vocalion) the sleeve notes are only a reproduction of those on the original "Warmth Of Wynter" album, so there's very little additional information about Mark Wynter and his recording career. Unlike many artists of his time there are very few cover versions to be found here. Most of the songs are originals and prove to be the perfect showcase for Mark Wynter's voice. With a vocal style

similar to Adam Faith it's surprising that his success was so short lived (though he did go on to have a further five hits on Pye). Any CD that includes a Song For Europe entry is usually worth purchasing but few will include so many other outstanding songs. RC

Singled Out

BRIAN KENNEDY *You Raise Me Up* Curb CUBC090

For reasons that escape me (and many others) Brian Kennedy seems to have little success in the UK with singles. Despite three Top 40 singles in the mid-nineties none of his singles since have charted, including duets with Juliet Turner and Ronan Keating. Even with heavy airplay the original Secret Garden single of "You Raise Me Up" failed to crack the Top 75 so Brian Kennedy recorded a solo version. Although this lacks the hymn-like quality of the original it is well worth seeking out. RC

FRANCES RUFFELLE *If A Wish Came True* Movie Play Holland 9850211

Although this single was supposedly released in 1998 copies of it recently surfaced on an Internet mail order site. I'm not sure if someone stumbled across some old stock or if it had just been re-issued, but it appears to be deleted already! There are two versions of the song, the 7" Radio version and the 6 A.M. Dub mix, and both have been produced by Phil Radford and Michiel Van der

Kay rather than George De Angelis. They certainly sound different to the original version on "Fragile". Probably one for fans only but still a gem from an often overlooked album. RC.

SERTAB *Here I Am*
Columbia Austria 6743632

"Here I Am" is the follow up to Sertab's Eurovision winner and follows a similar path. Fans of "Everyway That I Can" will not be disappointed although some of the mixes spoil the original song. This CD single contains the Radio Edit, Jason Nevins Radio Remix, Nevins Dirty Rock Club Remix and it's Re-Edit.

Although this has been released across Europe, all the mixes seem to be the same. Now all we need is a UK issue! RC

DVD/Video Reviews

VARIOUS *Junior Eurovision Song Contest 2003*
EMI/CMC 4907509

Two weeks after the event the first official Eurovision DVD was on sale throughout Europe. The contest is naturally included, but unfortunately the excellent interval act featuring Busted and the Sugababes was

edited from the DVD release. However, all 16 preview videos are found here together with brief biographical details and a 'Behind The Scenes' section. Hopefully the main event DVD scheduled for June will be just as good – providing the interval is left in! GL



Vision Smalls

FOR SALE

ESC CDs and records for sale from 1950's to 2003. Prices from £1 to rarer more expensive items. Visit my web site for full list of items available at www.eurosongsales.homestead.com or send SAE/IRC for printed list to EuroSongSales, 19 Orchard Grove, London, SE20 8DN, UK or e-mail me at escorders@yahoo.co.uk

ESC's 1993-2003 available on DVD. £12 each. These discs will play on all makes of DVD players purchased in the UK. All enquiries to Peter Gaunt, 32 Fairview Crescent, Benfleet, Essex SS7 4JP

Something to sale? Why not send an advertisement to "Vision"? You'll find the

address on page 2 or e-mail editor_vision@hotmail.com

To receive latest ESC and SFE sales list, please send large SAE to Richard Crane, 57 Roman Way, Desborough, Kettering NN14 2QL

For Sale - D Reg Vauxhall Astra. 66,000 miles. Located In Grantham. Buyer to collect. Contact John Allison on 01522 532 547 or 01476 566109 www.ebay.co.uk - just search on 'Eurovision' and be surprised!

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Missing that essential Eurosong in original language or English? Maybe I have it and could help you

out. E-mail me, David Allan, on eurokopy1@aol.com and we can deal

For Sale! Spare VHS copies of ESC 1957 – 1983 (not 1964). £5 each including postage. Enquiries to Alan Smith, 19 Barnard Road, Ashmore Park, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton WV11 2JY

Now available on DVD. Song for Europe 1993. Sonia sings her eight songs. Write to Peter Gaunt, 32 Fairview Crescent, Benfleet, Essex SS7 4JP

New list of Eurovision records for sale or swap, including NO77 and SE65. Write to Svein Johansen, Fr. Nansensgt. 1, N-1532 Moss, Norway

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inclusive and willing to pay any reasonable amount. Write to Bill Holland, 23A Gravenhurst Road, Campton, Beds SG17 5NY

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Looking for an autographed photograph of 1975 Dutch winners Teach In (with Getty Kaspers). Also 1974 and 1975 autographed photographs of ABBA. Contact Mr David James, 51 Glebe Road, Hornsey, London N8 7DA

Seeking Portuguese National Final 2000 – Festival RTP da Canção 2000 – on video. Write to Steen Sørensen, Box 555, SE-451 22 Uddevalla, Sweden

Wanted! Miss World 2003 on video. Write to Mr T J Loveridge, The Bungalow, 56A Fulbridge Road, Peterborough PE1 3LB

Wanted! Good quality videos or DVD's of ESC 1980 and 1988. Please write to Duncan Hartley, 16

Thelsford Way, Solihull, Birmingham B92 9NR

Looking for ESC programme brochures from 1999, 1997, 1993 and earlier. Will pay reasonable prices plus postage. Write to Michelle-Louise Lewis, 5 Derwent Drive, Lakeside Gardens, Onchan, Isle of Man IM3 2DF

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Still searching for F185, UK62 and YU90. Can anyone help? Svein Johansen, Fr. Nansensgt. 1, N-1532 Moss, Norway

MISCELLANEOUS

To James in Swansea. If you remember 999A and you glimpsed Kolli in the Finnish Eurovision Final then drop me a line again. My e-mail address is colin.bradshaw@welho.com

Looking to correspond with ESC fans from other countries. I speak English, Portuguese, Swedish, Danish and German. Write to Steen Sørensen, Box 555, SE-451 22 Uddevalla, Sweden

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My name is Nicky and I wish to write to Eurofans all over the world! I'm 45 years old and have followed the contest since 1970. I also collect ESC memorabilia, CD's etc., and would like to have permanent Eurofriends. Please contact Mrs Nicky Byrne, 13 Samson Close, Rowner, Gosport, Hampshire or email your message to Ndorisferry@aol.com All messages will be answered.

I'm interested in writing to Eurovision friends anywhere, especially Serbia, Croatia etc. Write to Svein Johansen, Fr. Nansensgt. 1, N-1532 Moss, Norway

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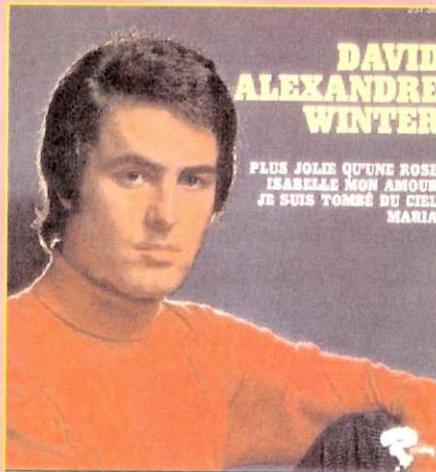


Quiz Answers

1. Seven times (winning three times)
2. Kirsten Andersen (nee Siggard) and Søren Bundgaard
3. Sir Henry
4. "The world is turning"
5. The Olsen Brothers
6. Four : Danish, English, German and Dutch
7. Keld Heick
8. "Vi Maler Byen Rød" (1989)
9. They were named after lead singer and songwriter Jens Brixtofte
10. Miami, Florida.

The 'Last' Page

Luxembourg 1970



Je suis Tombé Du Ciel
David Alexandre Winter
Received 'nul' points

The 'Last' Page is supported by Frank (Eurocat) Robinson