

# Grapevine

## Vocal Group Hall relying on GM readers

**G**oldmine readers will again have a big say in which groups are members of the 2006 induction class at the Vocal Group Hall of Fame.

Voting for this year's class continues through Dec. 31, and 30 percent of the vote will be determined by *Goldmine* readers. The ballot is included as an insert in this issue.

Voting by the Hall of Fame Induction Committee will carry 35 percent of the weight of the total vote, with already-inducted artists accounting for another 30 percent. The general public's vote will make up the final 5 percent. Voting is currently being conducted online at the VGHF's Web site: [www.VocalGroup.org](http://www.VocalGroup.org).

More than 100 acts are on the ballot and eligible for election this year. Three acts will be chosen from the 1950s, six from the 1960s, three from the 1970s and one from the 1980s.

In addition, one duo act will also be enshrined.

A date, time and place for the awards ceremony have not been announced.

"It'll be a huge three-day celebration," said Induction Committee Chairman Greg Loescher. "There is one night of inductions and then two nights of concerts. It's just amazing because a lot of these groups haven't sung together in decades, and they never miss a beat. The neat thing is a lot of the inductees were influenced by other inductees or looked up to them. It's really an opportunity for vocal group members to be fans."

Members of last year's Hall of Fame class included Fleetwood Mac, The Chiffons, The Rascals, the Pointer Sisters, the Neville Brothers and others. The Righteous Brothers were the second duo inducted.

This year's ballot includes plenty of big names: Sonny & Cher, Simon & Garfunkel, Peaches & Herb, Jan & Dean, Hall & Oats, The Lovin' Spoonful, The Hollies, The Moody Blues, America, Queen, The Osmonds, Kool & The Gang, Bread, Dawn (featuring Tony Orland) and many more.

"This year one of my all-time favorite groups, the Byrds, is up for nomination, so I'll be voting for sure," said Loescher. "I'm sure *Goldmine*

readers will find many of their favorites on the ballot, or already inducted.

"It's always such an honor to be able to vote for the



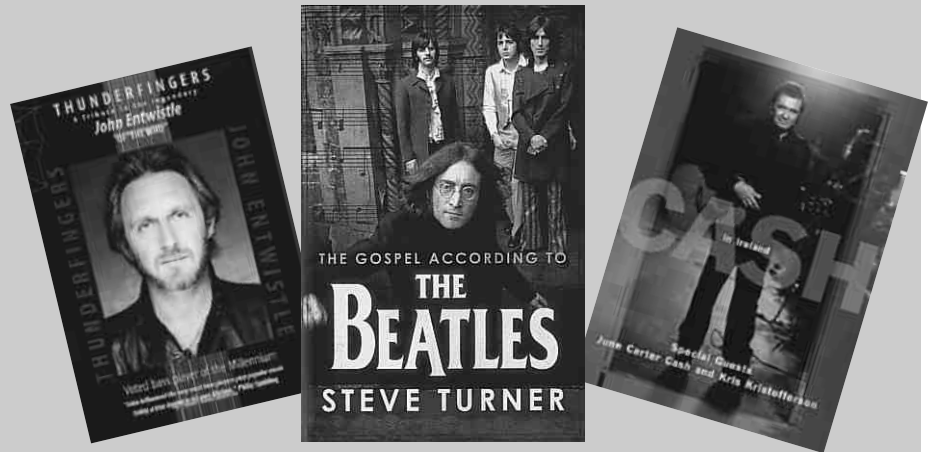
"Dedicated to Honor the Greatest Vocal Groups of the World."

Hall of Fame because so many of these groups I've enjoyed over the years. Unlike the Rock And Roll Hall Of Fame, the general public gets to vote, and *Goldmine* readers' votes count a lot more than the general public."

About 400 artists have already been inducted into the VCHF in the past eight years.

"The Vocal Group Hall of Fame puts a lot of trust and faith in *Goldmine* readers," said Bob Crosby, Vocal Group Hall of Fame Foundation president and CEO. "Record collectors and enthusiasts are important in the determination of the inductees, and we encourage people who don't subscribe to the magazine to pick up a copy and vote because their vote will really count." For more information, contact Crosby, at (724) 983-2025.

## Grapeleaves



**News & notes:** The Rolling Stones officially reclaimed their title as kings of the road in November. The Stones' current A Bigger Bang tour became the top-grossing tour of all time, surpassing U2's recent Vertigo tour. Since the fall of 2005, the Stones have played 110 shows and pulled in a whopping \$437 million. More than 3.5 million people have attended the shows. The Stones have been the top touring act before. Back in 1994-95, their Voodoo Lounge Tour broke all records for gate receipts... The Black Eyed Peas were the big winners last month in the 2006 American Music Association (AMA) Awards. The quartet took home honors for favorite rap/hip hop and soul/R&B, and also won best rap/hip hop album for *Monkey Business*. The Red Hot Chili Peppers, Kelly Clarkson, Mary J. Blige and Rascal Flatts were also double winners... Former Swedish pop sensation ABBA will have its own museum. The group's music, clothing and other items will be on display in Stockholm some time in 2008... Fans are already lining up for tickets to next year's Genesis tour. The group plans to reunite for the first time in 15 years, and the British leg of the tour reportedly sold out in just 90 minutes on Nov. 24. About 100,000 tickets were sold for shows in London and Manchester. The group will kick off the tour June 11 in Finland. The lineup will include Phil Collins, Mike Rutherford and Tony Banks... MTV is reporting that the long-running rift between Apple Computers and Apple Records, which has kept The Beatles music off iTunes, could be close to an end.

**For couch potatoes:** John Entwistle was always looked at as the silent, not-so-crazy member of The Who. The no-frills DVD *Thunderfingers*, from MVD Visual, gives some insight into the man behind the big bass by featuring the last lengthy interview he gave before his death in June 2002. Entwistle shows off his collection of rare guitars and talks about the special moments of his career... **Johnny Cash** fans who absolutely can't get enough of the Man in Black may want to spring for the new Mercury/Universal release *Johnny Cash in Ireland — 1993*. The DVD features Cash and his posse performing live at the Olympia Theater in Dublin. Joining Cash are his wife June Carter Cash, son John Carter Cash, Kris Kristofferson, The Carter Family, and Irish star Sandy Kelly.

**On the bookshelf:** In the seemingly never-ending search to find something new to write about The Beatles, rock journalist Steve Turner takes an interesting path with his recent release *The Gospel According To The Beatles*. Turner, expounding on John Lennon's famous comment that The Beatles were "bigger than Jesus," explores the Fab Four's impact on the faith and religion of their followers. Turner traces the group's history from their childhoods in Liverpool, through their experimentations with the drug culture, to their introduction to Eastern religion. 254 pages, hardcover, \$19.95, Westminster John Knox Press.

— By Brian Earnest

## Correction

Author Gillian G. Gaar's byline was inadvertently left off her story "10 Questions For... Devo's Gerald Casale" (issue #688, Dec. 8, 2006). *Goldmine* regrets the error.