

Classic Tracks from the King Family of Labels: Zero to 180's Top Picks

[last updated January 17, 2018]



= Western Swing, Country Jazz, Honky Tonk, Bluegrass, Yodelin' Hillbilly, Rockabilly Bop, Surf, Country and Hard Rock & Japanese Pop

"Baby You Done Flubbed Your Dub With Me"	The Carlisle Brothers	1945	
"Steel Guitar Stomp"	Hank Penny	1946	[Merle Travis + Noel Boggs on steel]
"Jimmie's Jump"	Jimmy Widener	1946	[Earl 'Joaquin' Murphey on steel]
"Freight Train Boogie"	The Delmore Brothers (with Roy Lanham & Jethro Burns)	1946	[co-written with Henry Glover]
"Jukebox Blues"	Cowboy Copas	1946	
"I Love to Yodel"	Carolina Cotton	1946	
"On Top of Old Smoky"	Minnie Pearl	1946	
"Twin Guitar Polka"	Ocie Stockard & His Wanderers	1946	
"Keep Them Cold Icy Fingers Off of Me"	Fairley Holden & His Six Ice Cold Papas	1946	
"Four or Five Times"	Luke Wills and His Rhythm Busters	1947	[Luke, brother of the great Bob Wills]
"Billy Goat Rag"	Mel Cox & His Flying X Ranch Boys	1947	[Wilson 'Lefty' Perkins on steel guitar]
"Roly Poly"	Cowboy Copas	1947	[surprisingly rockin' and swingin' ver.]
"Hillbilly Jump"	Hank Penny	1947	[Bobby Koefer on steel guitar]
"Over the Rainbow"	Homer & Jethro	1947	[humorous uptempo arrangement]
"Blue Tail Fly"	Homer & Jethro	1947	
"Mountain Dew"	Grandpa Jones	1947	
"Dog House Boogie"	Hawkshaw Hawkins	1948	
"Texas Boogie"	Paul Howard	1949	
"Hangman's Boogie"	Cowboy Copas	1949	
"Blues Stay Away From Me"	The Delmore Brothers	1949	
"Why Don't You Haul Off & Love Me"	Wayne Raney	1949	
"Why Don't You Haul Off & Get Religion"	Zeb Turner	1950	
"The Motor City Boogie"	The York Brothers	1950	
"Nothin' Clickin' Chicken"	The Down Homers	1950	
"Hi De Ho Boogie on a Saturday Night"	Al Dexter	1950	[Texas' sound, yet recorded in Cinti!]
"Steamboat Bill Boogie"	The Delmore Brothers	1951	
"Chew Tobacco Rag"	Zeb Turner	1951	
"The Hiccough Song"	Mattie O'Neal & Salty Homes	1951	
"Hillbilly Wedding"	Shorty Long & Dolly Dimple	1951	
"Goodnight Cincinnati, Hello Tennessee"	Shorty Long	1951	
"Phhft! You Were Gone"	Bob Newman	1952	
"Chic a Choo Freight"	Bob Newman	1952	
"Twirly Whirly"	The York Brothers	1952	
"Tennessee Tango"	The York Brothers	1952	
"Tennessee Wig Walk"	Bonnie Lou	1953	
"Choking the Strings"	Reno & Smiley	1953	
"Whammy Bammy Buzzard Goozer"	Louis Innis	1953	
"Hardtop Race"	George Stogner	1953	
"Penicillin"	Mac Odell	1953	
"Hey Mister Cotton Picker"	Moon Mullican	1953	
"Buckeye Boogie"	The Buckeye Pals	1953	[78 issued on King subsidiary DeLuxe]
"Money Bag Woman"	Luke McDaniel	1954	
"Mountain Mambo"	Country Cats	1954	[Jerry Byrd on steel guitar]

"We Did"	Herb & Kay	1955	[Herb & Kay Adams]
"It Just Ain't Love"	Kay Adams	1955	[future 'Little Pink Mack' singing star]
"Railroaded"	Charlie Gore	1956	[recorded/engineered in Cincinnati]
"Hen Scratchin' Stomp"	Reno & Smiley	1956	
"Country Boy Rock 'n Roll"	Reno & Smiley	1956	
"Bottle to the Baby"	Charlie Feathers	1956	
"No Good Robin Hood"	Delbert Barker	1956	
"Rock & Roll Nursery Rhyme"	Dave Dudley	1956	[future truck driving music giant]
"Seven Nights to Rock"	Moon Mullican	1956	
"Grandaddy's Rockin'"	Mac Curtis	1956	
"Shake Shake"	The Blue Tones	1957	
"Train 45"	The Stanley Brothers	1958	
"Bip a Little, Bop a Lot"	Joe Penny	1958	
"Jungle Rock"	Hank Mizell	1958	
"Eeny-Meeny Miney Mo"	Bob & Lucille	1959	
"Cool Disc Jockey"	Boyd Bennett & His Rockets	1959	
"How Mountain Girls Can Love"	The Stanley Brothers	1959	
"I'm a Man of Constant Sorrow"	The Stanley Brothers	1959	
"Haulin' Freight"	Bob Newman ('modern' update of 1951 original)	1959	[co-written by Henry Glover]
"Electrified Donkey"	Ferlin Husky	1959	
"Slow Down Baby"	Bruce Channel (with Marvin Montgomery Orchestra)	1960	
"The Search Goes On"	Trini Lopez	1960	
"It Just Tears Me All to Pieces"	Zeb Turner	1961	
"Ding Dong Doo"	The Frontiers	1961	
"Slee-zee"	The Ramrods	1961	[issued on King subsidiary Queen]
"Zanzie"	Mickey Baker	1962	
"Malibu Mal"	The Nu-Trons	1962	
"Lonesome 7-7203"	Hawkshaw Hawkins	1963	
"Honky Tonk Heaven"	Lattie Moore	1963	[written by Ray Pennington]
"Your Wiggle and Your Giggle"	Lue Renney	1964	
"Guitar Pickin' Truck Driver"	Moore & Napier	1964	
"My Baby's Got Flat Feet"	Crash Craddock	1964	
"Seat Belts Please"	The Exports	1964	
"Your Mama Put the Hurt on Me"	The Impacs	1964	
"Pinball Blues"	Moore & Napier	1965	
"I'm the Sexiest Gal in Town"	Ruth Wallis	1966	
"Grundy Hoedown"	Moore & Napier	1967	
"Big Cat"	Orangie Ray Hubbard	1967	
"Big Train"	Don Reno, Bill Harrell & the Tennessee Cut-Ups	1967	[YouTube clip - Porter Wagoner Show]
"Lost Train"	Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys	1968	
"Slightly Reminiscent of Her"	Keith Murphy & the Daze	1968	
"In My Heart I'm a Free Man"	The Establishment	1969	[*Grass Roots-esque radio pop]
"Lawdy Rolla"	The Guerillas	1969	[*rock remake of prison work song]
"Forevermore"	Tokyo Happy Coats	1970	
"Louisiana Woman"	Swampwater	1970	
"Flyin' Machine"	Wild Goose	1971	[*hard rock w/ trippy FX in outro]
"But You Know I Love You"	Hank & Lewie Wickham w/ Johnny Dagucon	1971	
"Hey People"	Coldwater Army	1971	[issued on King subsidiary Agape]

= Blues, Boogie, Jazz, Calypso, Jump Blues, Rhythm & Blues, Rock & Roll, Soul, Funk & Boogaloo

"I Know Who Threw the Whiskey"	Bull Moose Jackson & His Orchestra	1945	
"Good Rockin' Tonight"	Wynonie Harris	1947	[<i>Flowers in the Dustbin</i> – chapter 1]
"Tomorrow Night"	Lonnie Johnson	1948	
"Slim's Stomp"	John Lee Hooker	1949	[under the alias, Texas Slim]
"Harmonica Boogie"	Pete Lewis	194?	[from <i>Turn Back the Clock</i> LP]
"Why Don't You Haul Off & Love Me"	Bullmoose Jackson & His Buffalo Bearcats	1949	
"Who Said Shorty Wasn't Coming Back"	Lucky Millinder & His Orchestra	1950	[Henry Glover on vocals]
"Sixty Minute Man"	The Dominoes	1950	
"Baseball Boogie"	Mabel Scott	1950	
"Drum Boogie"	Roy Brown	1950	
"Rock a Bye Baby"	Roy Brown	1951	
"Bloodshot Eyes"	Wynonie Harris	1951	
"Train Kept a-Rollin'"	Tiny Bradshaw & His Orchestra	1951	
"The Walkin' Blues"	Jesse Powell & His Orchestra	1951	[Fluffy Hunter on vocals]
"Chew Tobacco Rag"	Lucky Millinder & His Orchestra	1951	
"Greyhound"	Wynonie Harris	1952	
"Rockin' with Fes"	Roy Byrd (a.k.a., Professor Longhair)	1952	
"The Louisiana Hop"	Pete 'Guitar' Lewis	1952	
"My Ding-a-Ling"	Dave Bartholomew	1952	[Chuck Berry's only #1 hit!]
"Big Ten-Inch Record"	Moose Jackson	1952	[70s radio hit for Aerosmith]
"Floyd's Guitar Blues"	Krazy Kris & the Swinging Gentlemen	1952	[featuring Floyd Smith on slide guitar]
"Eddie's Blues"	Eddie Smith & His Chiefs	1953	[rockin' blues with pre-pedal steel]
"Hollerin' and Screamin'"	Little Esther	1953	
"Only You"	The Platters	1954	
"Let's Work"	Big Jay McNeely	1954	
"Who Parked the Car"	Cecil Young 'Progressive' Quartet	1954	
"Space Guitar"	Johnny 'Guitar' Watson	1954	[radical sound engineering for King]
"All Around the World"	Little Willie John	1955	[also known as "Grits Ain't Groceries"]
"Six to Eight"	Sticks McGhee	1955	
"Stumbling Block"	Champion Jack Dupree	1955	
"Ring a-Ling Dong"	Rudy (Ray) Moore	1955	
"Strollin' with Nolen"	Jimmy Nolen	1956	
"I'm Tore Up"	Billy Gayles	1956	
"Honky Tonk (pts. 1 and/or 2)"	Bill Doggett	1956	
"Triple Threat"	Roland Kirk	1956	
"Fever"	Little Willie John	1956	
"Please Please Please"	James Brown & the Famous Flames	1956	
"Rock Granny Roll"	The Midnighters	1956	
"Grandma Loves to Rock 'n' Roll"	Red Klimo	1956	[co-written by Henry Glover]
"De Knife, De Fork, De Spoon"	Lord BooBoo	1957	
"Dedicated to the One I Love"	The 5 Royales	1957	
"The Slummer the Slum"	The 5 Royales	1958	
"Your Teeth and Your Tongue"	The Five Keys	1959	
"What Makes You So Tough"	Teddy Humphries & Chorus	1959	
"It Hurts To Be In Love"	Annie Laurie	1959	
"I Loves You Porgy"	Nina Simone	1959	[issued on King subsidiary Bethlehem]
"Let's Go Let's Go Let's Go"	Hank Ballard & the Midnighters	1960	
"Christmas with No One to Love"	Charles Brown	1961	

"Fever"	Bobby Freeman	1961	[upbeat version w/ 'popcorn' beat]
"Hideaway"	Freddy King	1961	
"I'm Tore Down"	Freddy King	1961	
"Do the President Twist"	Lula Reed & Freddy King with Sonny Thompson	1962	
"Girl You Had a Thing Goin'"	Pete and Repeat	1962	[on King subsidiary Bethlehem]
"When We Get Together"	Otis Williams	1962	
"Somebody Call the Station"	Johnny Otis	1962	[cool, cheesy train sound F/X]
"Gangster of Love"	Johnny 'Guitar' Watson	1963	
"Hog Killin' Time"	Eddie Kirk	1964	
"Papa's Got a Brand New Bag"	James Brown & the Famous Flames	1965	
"Girl From Kookamunga"	Freddy King with Lonnie Mack	1966	
"Ain't You Glad"	Mill Evans	1966	[incredibly, unreleased track!]
"Why Am I Crying"	Shirley Wahls	1967	
"Regardless"	Charles Brown	1967	
"Up and Down the Hill"	TC Lee & the Bricklayers	1967	
"Three Soulful Mice"	King Coleman	1967	
"The Boo Boo Song"	King Coleman	1967	
"Whiz a Shoo Pepi Dada"	Amos Milburn	1967	
"Let Yourself Go"	James Brown & the Famous Flames	1967	
"Unwind Yourself"	Marva Whitney	1967	
"In the Middle (pts. 1 & 2)"	Alfred 'Pee Wee' Ellis	1968	
"That's My Zone (He's Pickin' On)"	Charles Spurling	1968	[co-written Spurling & Jas. Brown]
"Sad But True"	Elaine Armstrong	1968	
"Say It Loud – I'm Black & I'm Proud"	James Brown	1968	
"Honky Tonk Popcorn"	Bill Doggett with James Brown	1969	
"Butter Your Popcorn"	Hank Ballard	1969	
"Answer to Mother Popcorn"	Vicki Anderson	1969	
"It's My Thing (You Can't Tell Me Who To Sock It To)"	Marva Whitney	1969	
"Fever"	Queenie Lyons	1969	[classic soul version]
"Prove It"	Pat Lundy	1969	
"Only Mama That'll Walk the Line"	Pat Lundy	1970	
"Sitting Here on a Tongue"	The Grodeck Whipperjenny	1970	
"Get Up I Feel Like Being a Sex Machine"	James Brown & the JB's	1970	
"The Grunt"	The JB's	1970	
"Chopper 70"	Wayne Cochran	1970	
"Going Back to Alabama"	Mickey Murray	1970	
"Underground Atlanta"	Piano (Dr. Feelgood) Red	1970	
"Somewhere Down the Line"	Albert Washington	1970	
"Funky Drummer"	James Brown	1970	
"Papa's Got the Wagon"	Gloria Walker	1971	
"Love Potion No. 9"	The Coasters	1971	
"What Do You Want With My Love"	The Stratoliners	1972	
"Think"	Lyn Collins	1972	
"Soul Train"	Little Royal	1972	
"(Need Nobody to Help Me) Keep Up with My Man"	Gloria Edwards	1972	
"Cool Jerk"	The Coasters	1972	
"Come to Me"	The Patterson Twins	1973	
"Getting' Down (With Hoss)"	Kastle	1973	

= Gospel & Spirituals

"I'll Fly Away"	Brown's Ferry Four <small>[Merle Travis, Grandpa Jones & Delmore Bros.]</small>	1947	
"Everybody Will Be Happy Over There"	Brown's Ferry Four	1947	
"Highway to Heaven"	The Nightingales	1949	
"I Like the Old Time Way"	Shannon Grayson	1950	
"From the Manger to the Cross"	Cowboy Copas	1950	
"Jesus Is God's Atomic Bomb"	Swan Silvertone Singers	1950	
"Atomic Telephone"	The Spirit of Memphis Quartet	1952	[Written by Glover & Nathan!]
"Lord Jesus (pt. 1 & 2)"	The Spirit of Memphis Quartet	1952	
"Gloryland Boogie"	Swanee River Boys	1953	
"One Day Religion"	Mac Odell	1953	
"I Wonder Who Cares"	Cumberland River Singers	1953?	
"There Ain't No Grave Gonna Hold My Body Down"	Brother Claude Ely	1954	
"Little David Play On Your Harp"	Brother Claude Ely	1954	
"The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow"	The Trace Family Trio	195?	
"It's Alright Now"	The Four Internes	1955	
"Jesus"	Bible Way Church of God Choir	1960	
"I Dream"	George Hines and the Gospel Winds	1970	
"The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow"	Kay Robinson & the JB's	1970	