

top 10 CDs

There's an old parlor game you can play that's guaranteed to keep you occupied for hours. The premise is that you're stuck on a

desert island indefinitely. The question you have to answer is, "What 10 CDs would you take to pass the time?"

Now, whenever folks play this argument-inducing game, there's always a wiseguy who says, "And we are to assume there is power and a stereo on this island?"

The answer is. "Yes." We have generously supplied you with approximately 14,000 cases of batteries and a durable boom-box.

The ground rules are simple: no boxed sets, but double albums are OK. Compilations are fine, but not your own burned CDs. For the sake of argument, your music never wears out.

Paramount to this gambit is your ability to cover the musical bases. Lord knows what kinds of mood swings you'll go through, but you'll want to make sure you can turn it up, tone it down or find some middle ground as necessary.

HERE'S A LIST OF MUSIC TO TAKE WITH YOU IF YOU'RE EVER

STRANDED ON A DESERT ISLAND **BY MARK LUCE**

So at the risk of angry e-mails telling me how ignorant, foolish or misguided I am, here, in alphabetical order by artist, is the Official *Out of Bounds* Top 10 Desert Island CDs list:

Miles Davis, *Kind of Blue*. Potent, timeless, simultaneously soothing and energetic.

Arthur Dodge and the Horsefeathers, *Nervous Habit*. A hard-to-find 2000 release on the Horsemonkey label, but Dodge's songwriting and the tight musicianship are worth the search.

Bob Dylan, *Blood on the Tracks*. This latter-day Whitman carves arguably the best of his records.

Ella Fitzgerald, *Sings the Duke Ellington Songbook*. Two masters for the cost of one.

Glenn Gould, *Bach's Goldberg Variations*. Gould was a bit of an eccentric, as you can hear him murmuring to himself underneath his exquisite piano work.

Elmore James, *Dust My Broom*. The king of blues slide guitar. Often overlooked and underappreciated.

Aimee Mann, *Bachelor No. 2.2*. Elegant lessons in song-craft and ennui.

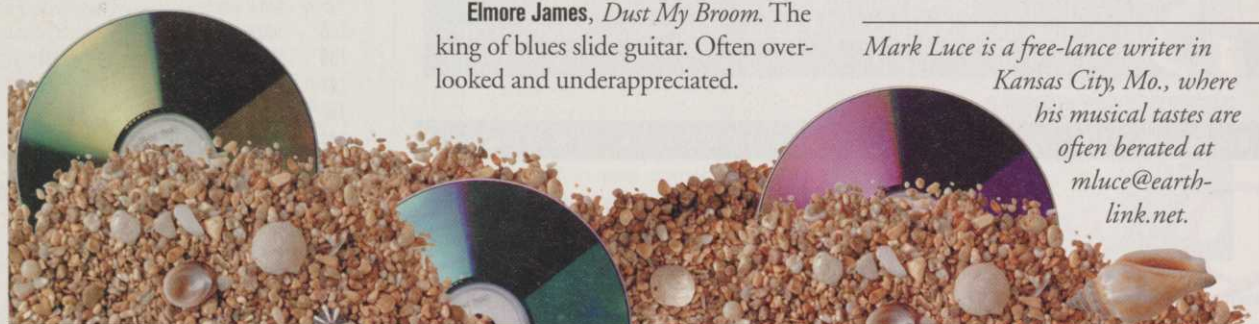
Mos Def, *Black on Both Sides*. My all-time favorite hip-hop album.

The Rolling Stones, *Exile on Main Street*. The bad boys rip this joint at their most daring and naughty.

Lucinda Williams, *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road*. Luscious, heartbreaking, slightly countrified songs with bite.

And a baker's dozen back-up: The Beatles, *Revolver*; The Clash, *London Calling*; John Coltrane, *Giant Steps*; Ry Cooder, *Paris, Texas*; Elvis Costello, *My Aim is True*; Cowboy Junkies, *Trinity Sessions*; Billie Holiday, *Lady Day: The Best of Billie Holiday*; Nirvana, *Nevermind*; Frank Sinatra and Antonio Jobim, *Francis Albert Sinatra & Antonio Carlos Jobim*; The Sonics, *Here are the Sonics*; Uncle Tupelo, *Anodyne*; Tom Waits, *Small Change*; and The White Stripes, *White Blood Cells*.

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