

Current Top 20  
CONTEMPORARY  
CHRISTIAN  
Songs from...

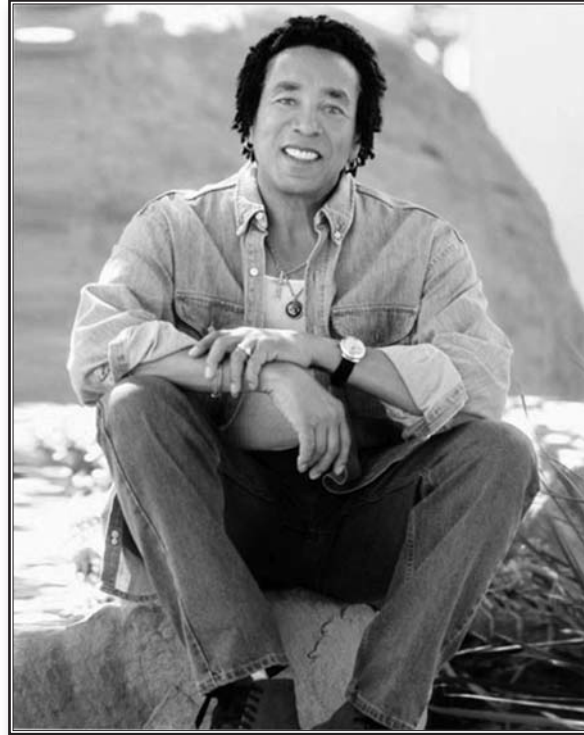
Billboard

This Week - Last Week - Song - Artist - Album

- 1 (1) - More Beautiful You - **Jonny Diaz** (from *More Beautiful You*)
  - 2 (2) - Revelation Song - **Phillips, Craig & Dean** (from *Fearless*)
  - 3 (4) - Lay 'Em Down - **Needtobreathe** (from *The Outsiders*)
  - 4 (5) - Hold My Heart - **Tenth Avenue North** (from *Over and Underneath*)
  - 5 (6) - Born Again - **Third Day** (from *Revelation*)
  - 6 (8) - Lead Me To The Cross - **Chris and Conrad** (from *Chris and Conrad*)
  - 7 (3) - Speaking Louder Than Before - **Jeremy Camp** (from *Speaking Louder Than Before*)
  - 8 (7) - Perfect People - **Natalie Grant** (from *Relentless*)
  - 9 (14) - Speaking Louder Than Before - **Jeremy Camp** (from *Speaking Louder Than Before*)
  - 10 (10) - Wait and See - **Brandon Heath** (from *Wait and See*)
  - 11 (9) - Closer To Love - **Mat Kearney** (from *City of Black and White*)
  - 12 (18) - City on Our Knees - **Toby Mac** (single from upcoming February release)
  - 13 (17) - The Words I Would Say - **Sidewalk Prophets** (from *These Simple Truths*)
  - 14 (12) - The Motions - **Matthew West** (from *Something To Say*)
  - 15 (13) - I Will Rise - **Chris Tomlin** (from *Hello Love*)
  - 16 (16) - Free To Be Me - **Francesca Battistelli** (from *My Paper Heart*)
  - 17 (11) - All Along - **Remedy Drive** (from *Daylight Is Coming*)
  - 18 (15) - You're Not Shaken - **Phil Stacey** (from *You're Not Shaken*)
  - 19 (New) - Sing, Sing, Sing - **Chris Tomlin** (from *Hello Love*)
  - 20 (20) - Glorious - **Newsboys** (from *In The Hands of God*)
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# SMOKEY ROBINSON: Miracle Man

A music legend recalls his remarkable journey.



By Nina Hämmerling Smith

For the past 50 years, his sweet voice and staggering talent have made him a beloved star.

But for **Smokey Robinson**, whose new album *Time Flies When You're Having Fun* was released August 25, the journey wasn't always fun—or easy.

It was 1958 when he helped his friend and fellow Detroit native **Berry Gordy** found Motown, which in turn shaped popular music for generations to come.

Over the next few decades, he wrote and recorded dozens of hit songs, including "The Tracks of My Tears," "Ooo Baby Baby," "You've Really Got A Hold on Me," "I Second

That Emotion" and "The Tears of a Clown," for his group, **Smokey Robinson & The Miracles**. But, in many cases, classics that he wrote for other Motown acts were even bigger. "My Guy" for **Mary Wells**, "My Girl," and "Get Ready" for **The Temptations**, "I'll Be Doggone," and "Ain't That Peculiar" for **Marvin Gaye** among many.

He married his high school sweetheart and had three beautiful children. Robinson's life seemed perfect—until things started to fall apart.

In 1984, some of Smokey's friends who were doing cocaine introduced him to the drug. Robinson had grown up in a pretty rough neighborhood, and yet he'd stayed out of trouble thanks to his love of sports, music and God.

But now, as a man in his 40s, he found himself hooked on drugs.

For two years, he suffered through his addiction; his health declined, his marriage disintegrated, he withdrew from his friends, and yet none of that mattered, because "all I cared about was the cocaine," he says.

One Sunday in 1986, his dear friend Leon Kennedy unexpectedly appeared at Robinson's apartment. Robinson and Kennedy had a special bond, one that had been cemented nearly a decade earlier.

In 1977, Robinson was sitting home alone when he heard a voice. "I was upstairs looking at TV and I heard God's voice say to me, I want you to know my son, Jesus, and I want you to tell your friends. I heard it audibly, and I thought somebody was playing a joke on me. I searched my closet. I opened the bedroom door, but nobody was there. I was kind of scared, and I didn't tell anybody."

(See "Smokey Robinson" Page 8)

Current Top 20  
GOSPEL  
Songs from...

Billboard

This Week - Last Week - Song - Artist - Album

- 1 (3) - Close To You - **BeBe & CeCe Winans** (from *Close To You*)
- 2 (5) - Praise Him In Advance - **Marvin Sapp** (from *Thirsty*)
- 3 (1) - Wait On The Lord - **Donnie McClurkin feat. Karen Clark-Sheard** (from *Live In Detroit*)
- 4 (2) - God In Me - **Mary Mary featuring Kierra "Kiki" Sheard** (from *The Sound*)
- 5 (5) - Souled Out - **Hezekiah Walker** (from *Souled Out*)
- 6 (8) - Justified - **Smokie Norful** (from *Smokie Norful Live*)
- 7 (7) - Back II Eden - **Donald Lawrence** (from *The Law of Confession, Part I*)
- 8 (10) - Lead Me Jesus - **Greg O'Quin & iPraise** (from *After The Storm*)
- 9 (11) - They That Wait - **Fred Hammond with John P. Kee** (from *Love Unstoppable*)
- 10 (14) - Restored - **J. Moss** (from *V3...Just James*)
- 11 (9) - It Ain't Over Until God Says Its Over - **Maurette Brown-Clark** (from *The Dream*)
- 12 (4) - I Wouldn't Know You - **James Fortune & Fiya** (from *The Transformation*)
- 13 (12) - All I Need - **Brian Courtney Wilson** (from *All I Need*)
- 14 (15) - I Wanna Love Like That - **The Brown Boyz** (from *Harvest Time*)
- 15 (16) - Just Wanna Say - **Israel Houghton** (from *The Power Of One*)
- 16 (13) - God Is Able - **Joe Leavell & St. Stephen Temple Choir** (from *God Is Able*)
- 17 (18) - God Favored Me (Part II) - **Hezekiah Walker featuring Marvin Sapp** (from *Souled Out*)
- 18 (19) - With Your Always - **Troy Sneed** (from *In Due Season*)
- 19 (New) - Righteous Forsaken - **Bishop Eddie Long & Friends** (from *The Kingdom, Volume I*)
- 20 (20) - How I Got Over - **Vickie Winans** (from *How I Got Over*)

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