

KERRI MASON

Billboard Beat Box columnist

1. Jerome Sydenham & Dennis Ferrer, "Sandcastles" (Defected). A once-in-a-decade dance floor vocal.
2. LCD Soundsystem, "LCD Soundsystem" (DFA). Murphy fueled the dance-rock revolution.
3. Kelly Clarkson, "Breakaway" (RCA). The nastiest break-up album since "Jagged Little Pill."
4. Armand Van Helden, "Nympho" (Ultra). Beer-soaked beat-rock that keeps looping in your head.
5. Oscar G, "Made in Miami" (Star 69). Easing dance floor dramatists into the quieter, gentler age.
6. Fiona Apple, "Extraordinary Machine" (Clean Slate/Epic). Confessional "Cabaret."
7. Pier Bucci, "Familia" (Crosstown Rebels/Studio K7). Minimalism at its most beautiful.
8. Masters At Work, "The Kings of House" (Rapster/Studio K7). Every energetic house classic on a mere two CDs, mixed joyfully.
9. Nine Inch Nails, "With Teeth" (Interscope). Moments of schlock tempered by the usual Reznor brilliance.
10. John Legend, "Get Lifted" (G.O.O.D./Columbia). Polished soul with a hip-hop bend, and one instant classic ("Ordinary People").