

Music mantra



IF you haven't heard Santana's Smooth, you have probably not transited from Linkin Park yet. This latin/rock smash hit featuring the Spanish guitar maestro Santana and Matchbox 20's Rob Thomas has been winning emmys and platinum like a handful.

On to our main feature band now. Matchbox 20!

Matchbox 20 features a very unique type of music. Most certainly its mainstream rock, but the vocals of Rob Thomas is astoundingly different and awesome. He is what I would call a step-voice, holding back his voice to get a sophisticated feel (atleast I think so) while maintaining the normals umm norms of a rock vocal. Confused? Probably. But in short you just might love it.

Matchbox 20's greatest song is perhaps Push, which was in their first and most popular album, Yourself of Someone Like You. This is an awesome album to buy. Not only for the fact that it sold 20 million copies worldwide or something, but also because it has a distinct mature feel to the songs. Another one of my personal

favourite which is more fast-paced is Long Day.

However Matchbox 20's fame doesn't end here. Try afterwards the song Unwell and if possible the acoustic version of it. The song is by the way a psycho, I think driven mad by love (? !). Afterwards if you are still in a mood for soft ballads, you would definitely love their song "If You Are Gone". Lend me end by recommending another song of Matchbox 20, which you will find in their latest album, "More Than You Think You Are", "Disease". This song is a bit...ok a lot like Smooth...but that's a reason to love the song, right?

The article is rather a bit short, so I guess I have to put one last song. It's a bit different from Matchbox 20, but its for those of you who love soft mellow acoustic ballads. Its Damien Rice's Cannonball. This song is slow and long, so people would fast paced taste, would be bored death, but for the poetic people who appreciate lyrics listen to it. You will like what he has got to say. Lemme keep that as a surprise!

By Reggie

Blasts from the past Catching up on the best of the 90's

FROM CENTRE

Mrs. Doubtfire Robin Williams loves his children enough to pretend to be a female housekeeper.

The American President The US president goes on a date.

Fargo

Hiring thugs to kidnap hi wife to collect money from her rich father. Obviously things keep going hilariously wrong.

As Good As It Gets

Jack Nicholson's character basically hates

tian Bale.

Schwarzenegger's True Lies had its share of comic stunts and insane action such as a chase scene involving a horse and a motorbike. War epics include Spielberg's tribute to holocaust victims in Schindler's List and the dynamic tale of Saving Private Ryan starring Hanks and Matt Damon.

the decade also saw The Fugitive with Tommy Lee Jones in the unrelenting pursuit of one of the best action stars Harrison Ford. The latter is a star who makes all the crazy action look so believable. He is also one of the few actors who originally risked their neck with their own stunts.

This was also the time when the greatest earning movie ever was made. Titanic grossed a staggering \$600,743,440. While the ship sank the movie rose above all else. Then there was the start of the Lord of the Rings trilogy as well as

The 90's also spawned a lot of doomsday movies where Earth is ravaged in many ways thanks to the impending doom of the approaching Millennium. Most memorable among these were Armageddon and The Fifth Element both starring Bruce Willis. And let's not forget the best action blockbuster of all time Terminator 2: the only sequel that is better than the original.

The remakes started near the end of the 90's with the advent of Zorro.

What this decade wasn't was about animation. It was still a fledgling art form that was still testing its wings. Beauty and the Beast was one of the last non-CGI cartoon in the truest sense of the word. What this decade has proven though is that computers can do anything. Sure they cut down costs tremendously but in the end it takes away a lot of the excitement that existed in the older movies where stunts happened in reality and people had a very likely chance of getting hurt. I guess, in the end we are all simply blood thirsty savages.

Although not all could be mentioned in the limited space, see if there's any in the list that you yourself have missed. Enjoy the movies while you can still get them at super low rates at your nearest DVD store.



Meg Ryan: Queen of 90's romance

people and slowly comes round to realising that people may not be so bad after all, thanks partly to a dog.

When things go boom

Now how about the movies where things blow up? For out and out action it was the year of the Matrix with the introduction of bullet time that is copied into every movie, comedy, sitcom, music video and advertisement these days. The Wachowski brothers set the bar very high for anyone attempting slick action scenes. Another similarly cool movie with a superb storyline is Equilibrium starring Chris-

90's Food in the nineties

IMAGINE life in Dhaka without pizza hut, A & W or American Burger. This isn't a manifestation of someone's nightmare. This life actually existed. No, I am not talking about the 18th century...folks, this was our gastronomical life in the nineties.

Now lets take a stroll down memory lane. A time when pizza, at first an unknown concept, appeared in our lives as 'pija': a circular piece of bread laden with some form of ground meat, topped off with a couple of microscopic pieces of cheese (or rather, 'ponir') and enormous chunks of tomato and cucumber. Horrified? Well, at that time this strange item, hardly resembling 'real' pizza, was considered a delicacy!

Picture this: two pieces of bun dripping with butter, stuffed with a piece of cholesterol enriched fried chicken wing. Certainly, the word 'burger' would not come to mind. But, shockingly, this indeed was the burger of the nineties. Or maybe, you could have paid a little more to have the chicken wing replaced by a piece of grilled kebab, the composition of which would be 80% chopped onions. But that's as close a resemblance the burger of the nineties would have of today's alleged palatable burger.

No Movenpick, no gelato, no Baskin Robbins.. Scary isn't it? But the people of the nineties did have their share of quality ice cream at legendary parlours like Dolce Vita and rainbow. Though there was a limit in variety in comparison to today, the ice cream was no less delicious.

Sweet teeth were restricted in choice about the array of chocolates. But we all remember the ever-popular 'mimi' candy, and Cadbury discharged stuff like 'dairy milk chocolate', '5 star' and 'perk' into our local market. Sadly, the popularity of these items have greatly decreased in recent times due to an evident glut in the variety of chocolates. Not to mention, in the nineties there was quite an abundance of lozenges which aunties of all shapes and sizes offered as tempting tokens.

The availability of confectionary was quite finite during those times. Only a few places like sauley's and coopers displayed assortments of pastries and cakes. Few had the privilege of penetrating the wonderful

world of cheesecakes, brownies, tarts and muffins: stuff that we, today, can easily take for granted.

Eating out was a rare occasion. At a point, in the early nineties, the only restaurants available were Chinese. Only later did thai restaurants materialize. The mushrooming of Indian and even traditional Bengali restaurants occurred much later.

The local people made their fair share of efforts of bringing international fast food to our lives. We didn't have MacDonalds and Dominoes, but we had 'Mecdonals' and 'Dominous' with their own attempts at duplicating their international counterparts.

Life in the nineties seems drab right? Well, it wasn't all that bad. There was good old Baily Road, with its famed fuchka and chotpoti. Then Old Dhaka, with its own variety of legendary culinary delights like biriyani (found at eminent fakhruddins), etc

We also must recall that the soft drinks revolution took place in the nineties. Coke and Pepsi was all the rage, but also, canned drinks attained their popularity. There was a time when we had to return glass soft drink bottles to the retailer, but it was in the nineties that people saw the evolution from glass to plastic bottles. Also, there was the transitory virgin cola fad.

Litre packets of ice cream began to appear for the first time with the advent of national companies like igloo, polar, etc. Also popular Bangali snacks like 'jhalhuri', 'dal bhaja', fried peanuts started to be packeted in tiny, convenient sachets.

There were popular hang outs like 'candyfloss' and 'kintuki'. In the late nineties, joints like Helvetia and Wimpy created elevated standards for fast food.

Those times, we could devour to our hearts content without having to worry about our food being 'bhejal', a new and saddening perception. The nineties triggered the fast food movement. Though the gastronomical scene was a lot different from today, some culinary aspects of the nineties continue to live on today. No one can doubt the influence the nineties had in the way we eat today.

By Bushra Sameeha Anwar