



HOT LISTS

GUEST POST: LIMERENCE'S 2013 FAVORITE HOLIDAY ALBUMS

DECEMBER 18, 2013 | SAMANTHA BAKER | 1 COMMENT

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It is the most wonderful time of the year. The grass is frosty, the trees are bare, and snow falls from the sky. Beautiful. The only element needed to make the holiday season complete is some terrific Christmas jams. The originals get a bit overused, so look no further than the following records to add some naughty to your already nice list of music. Here are the top five holiday albums of the 2013 Christmas season.

Kelly Clarkson- *Wrapped in Red*:

Clarkson brings her signature and *American Idol* winning vocals to her new Christmas album, *Wrapped in Red*. Featuring both original tunes and classic songs, Clarkson proves once again why she's America's sweetheart. Some songs are incredibly upbeat, making the listener want to dance and sing along, while others are very simple, creating perfect lullabies to fall asleep to at night. This perfect blend of

rock, pop, and holiday cheer will have you wrapped up in this album, listening to it nonstop.

Mary J. Blige- *A Mary Christmas*:

A new rendition of classic Christmas tunes, Blige brings her unique vocals to the table to create some very new holiday classics. Perfect for those nights by the fire with that special someone, the smooth slow melodies create a beautiful ambiance. The second people hear Blige's soulful voice pop through, they will want to sing and snap along.

Leona Lewis- *Christmas, With Love*:

Lewis is back and better than ever with her Christmas album, *Christmas, With Love*. From the moment her big beautiful voice boasts over the melody, the listener is drawn into the album. Bringing a new dimension to Christmas classics, Lewis reminds everyone with this record why she is such an amazing performer. A great album to play while decorating the tree, *Christmas, With Love* will fill all who listen with holiday cheer.

Straight No Chaser-*Under the Influence: Holiday Edition*:

This all male a cappella vocal ensemble brings a new twist to holiday classics. Featuring guest appearances from CeeLo Green and Colbie Caillat, among others, this Christmas album causes a person to be brimming with joy. Straight No Chaser proves once again why they are so beloved across this country with these unique coverings of Christmas tunes. No need for drinking when this record comes on, these magical songs will quickly put you under the influence.

Ariana Grande- *Snow in California (Single)*:

Technically not an album, but Grande has been releasing a slew of holiday songs for the past month or so, and this is by far the best. Using her sweet Mariah Carey-like vocals to capture listeners' attention, Grande shows all why she is one of the best new artists on the block. This slow jam causes anyone in the vicinity of hearing it to tap along and sway to the melody. Even though many despise the cold, the second this song comes on, it makes everyone want a little snow.

About This Author:

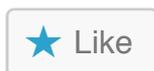
Samantha Baker is not your average pop culture fanatic. She eats, sleeps, and breathe all things pop

culture. As a senior at Drake University, double majoring in Magazine Journalism and English, she works diligently in her studies as well as finding time to catch up on the latest shows, movies, and music and some celebrity gossip. When she isn't studying, hanging out with pals, scrolling through Tumblr pages, she writes on her blog, [The Cultured Collegiate](#). Feel free to check out her blog and send her feedback.

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