



The Best CD's of 2004 Readers Poll

The Winners

1. Loretta Lynn: *Van Lear Rose* (Interscope) (1,044 points)
2. Gretchen Wilson: *Here for the Party* (Epic) (538)
3. Buddy Miller: *Universal United House of Prayer* (New West) (458)
4. The Drive-By Truckers: *Dirty South* (New West) (400)
5. Alan Jackson: *What I Do* (Arista Nashville) (327)
6. Alison Krauss & Union Station: *Lonely Runs Both Ways* (Rounder) (325)
7. Big & Rich: *Horse of a Different Color* (Warner Bros.) (321)
8. Steve Earle: *The Revolution Starts...Now* (E-Squared/Artemis) (238)
9. Tift Merritt: *Tambourine* (Lost Highway) (176)
10. The Notorious Cherry Bombs: *Notorious Cherry Bombs* (Universal South) (170)
11. Julie Roberts: *Julie Roberts* (Mercury) (159)
12. Mindy Smith: *One Moment More* (Vanguard) (154)
13. Tim McGraw: *Live Like You Were Dying* (Curb) (150)
14. Willie Nelson: *It Always Will Be* (Lost Highway) (139)
15. Allison Moorer: *The Duel* (Sugar Hill) (122)
- 16. Todd Snider: *East Nashville Blues (Oh Boy)* (121)**
17. Various Artists: *Touch My Heart: A Tribute to Johnny Paycheck* (Sugar Hill) (120)
18. Jon Dee Graham: *The Great Battle* (New West) (119)
19. Joe Nichols: *Revelation* (Universal South) (117)
20. Keith Urban: *Be Here* (Capitol) (103)
21. Montgomery Gentry: *You Do Your Thing* (Columbia) (90)
22. Iris Dement: *Lifeline* (Flariella) (88)
23. Dave Alvin: *Ashgrove* (Yep Roc) (86)
24. The Old Crow Medicine Show: *OCMS* (Netzwerk America) (85)
25. Neko Case: *Tigers Have Spoken* (Anti-) (84)

Songwriters

1. Loretta Lynn (72 points)
2. Steve Earle (62)
3. Patterson Hood (27)
4. Rodney Crowell (24)
5. Buddy Miller (23)
6. John Rich (21)
7. (tie) Alan Jackson (19)
- 7. (tie) Todd Snider (19)**
8. Dave Alvin (14)
9. Gretchen Wilson (13)