

Pimp Your iPhone: Best Music Apps

From free Dead shows to BBC radio, a guide to the coolest iPhone add-ons

IGNORE YOUR DORKY FRIEND who keeps turning his iPhone into a virtual fluff – the world of iPhone apps offers far more cool and useful add-ons for music fans. The iTunes App Store features almost 600 music applications, from tools for musi-

cians (beatmakers, four-track recorders, virtual guitars and keyboards) to portable streaming-radio apps that bring an infinite variety of music to your phone. We picked our six favorites, which range from a Brian Eno ambient-art project to the best Web radio hub around. But we're still waiting for the ultimate app: portable, Rhapsody-style on-demand music.

Wunder Radio

\$5.99

Satellite radio not enough variety for you? This app boasts more than 30,000 stations – a mix of U.S. and international terrestrial stations, plus the best of Web radio.

COOL FEATURES

Find music by city or genre; all the weather and sports you want.

Concert Vault

Free

Access a library of over 2,000 live shows, taken from the Wolfgang's Vault trove of classic rock. Bonus: indie-rock gigs are being added weekly.

COOL FEATURES

Full-color art and summaries for each show, including detailed line-ups of musicians.

Shazam

Free

Heard a hot track at the club but don't know what it is? This app can identify basically any song – just hold your iPhone toward the music, and it spits out the artist and title a few seconds later.

COOL FEATURES

Pulls up bios, lyrics and YouTube clips.



Pandora

Free

One of the most popular apps, for good reason. Amazingly clever software makes it easy to create your own customized radio station, or choose from a list of genres.

COOL FEATURES

Broadcast your good taste by sharing your stations with friends.

JamBase

Free

Way more than just jam bands: the best tool for seeking out concert listings in your area. And iPhone's GPS will direct the app to list shows in your current location.

COOL FEATURES

Syncs up with Google Maps to get you to the venue.

Bloom

\$3.99

Described by co-creator Brian Eno as an "endless music machine," this interactive instrument lets even non-musicians create chill-out soundscapes.

COOL FEATURES

As you create the music, colorful interface produces blissed-out visuals.

Powell onstage in 1974



Billy Powell, Lynyrd Skynyrd Keyboardist

Played on "Sweet Home Alabama," "Free Bird" and other classics
By David Browne

JUST AFTER MIDNIGHT on January 28th, Lynyrd Skynyrd pianist Billy Powell called 911 from his home in Orange Park, Florida, complaining of shortness

OBITUARIES

of breath and chest pains. By the time police arrived, Powell was unresponsive, phone still in his hand. Powell, 56, had been having heart problems; police attributed his death to natural causes.

Originally a Skynyrd roadie, Powell joined the band full-time as keyboard player for its 1973 debut album. His contributions to the group's records – the graceful, clas-

sical-influenced piano introduction to "Free Bird," the music-box-style solo in "Tuesday's Gone," the honky-tonk fills in the 1976 live version of "Whiskey Rock-A-Roller" – added an ornate dimension to the group's three-guitar Southern boogie. More recently, he re-created his "Sweet Home Alabama" part for Kid Rock's smash hit "All Summer Long."

Powell walked away from the 1977 plane crash that killed singer Ronnie Van Zant and two other band members. In 1987, he joined the revived Skynyrd, with whom he played until his death. "He took it to another level," says current singer Johnny Van Zant, Ronnie's brother. "I had goose bumps playing 'Free Bird' with him every night. I don't think we can ever find someone to replace him." **D**

David "Fathead" Newman

1933-2009

David "Fathead" Newman, who played saxophone in Ray Charles' band (and was one of Charles' closest friends), died of pancreatic cancer on January 20th at 75. "It was a natural marriage they had as far as how they connected with each other," says Charles' trumpet player Marcus Belgrave. Born and raised in Texas, Newman also played on sessions with Aretha Franklin, B.B. King and Dr. John. "David brought [Ray's] band to the heights it needed to be at," says Dr. John. "The fills that David plays behind the bridge in 'Drown in My Own Tears' are so perfect. They brought Ray's vocal up a notch." **D.B.**

John Martyn

1948-2009

Scottish singer-songwriter John Martyn, best known for his gorgeous 1973 album *Solid Air*, which merged folk, jazz and funk, died of pneumonia on January 29th at 60. In 1967, Martyn became the first white act signed to Island Records. A mentor to Nick Drake (*Solid Air*'s title track is a tribute to Drake), Martyn went on to record with Eric Clapton, David Gilmour and many others. "He was uncompromising, which made him infuriating to some people," said Phil Collins, who produced Martyn's 1981 album *Glorious Fool*. "But he was unique, and we'll never see the likes of him again." **ANDY GREENE**