

BIG E RADIO: OPEN MIC: SHOW #4: Sex, Drugs & a Few Laughs; CURATOR: MAK

PLAYLIST SUMMARY

Cheech and Chong [Cheech Marin](#) and [Tommy Chong](#)
Dave's Not Here

Ian Dury – Sex and Drugs and Rock n Roll
ALBUM: Stiff Records Single 1977
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfp8xrNAS6I>

Eric Clapton – Cocaine
ALBUM: Slowhand, 1977
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFEPIH4Iq58>

Grand Funk Railroad - We're An American Band
ALBUM: We're An American Band, 1973
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zc_JcGuH5Z8

Jefferson Airplane – White Rabbit
ALBUM: Surrealistic Pillow, 1967
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WANNqr-vcx0>

Patti LaBelle - Lady Marmalade
ALBUM: Originally released on Eleventh Hour's Greatest Hits
Then on Nightbirds with Labelle, 1974
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tn0-6n_dng4

Beatles – Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds
ALBUM: Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band, 1967
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naoknj1ebql>

Queen – I Go Crazy
ALBUM: released as a single, 1981; added to The Works CD, 1984
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yj11ymez0po>

Fleetwood Mac - Gold Dust Woman
ALBUM: Rumours, 1977
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFUAI_tzfgU

Salt n Pepa, Push it
SINGLE: 1987
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCadcBR95oU>

Nirvana - Dumb (Kurt Cobaine)
ALBUM: In Utero, 1993
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yj11ymez0po>

Madonna – Erotica
ALBUM: Erotica, 1992
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyhdvRWEWRw>

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The Weekend - Can't Feel My Face

ALBUM: Beauty Behind the Madness, 2015

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEI4qSrKPAs>

INTRO:

Brecker Brothers – Dig a little Deeper

ALBUM: Back to Back, 1976

edited intro track

It's another edition of open mic on the BigERadio.com community radio experience. I am your curator, Michael Kryton. This edition is what I call, Sex, Drugs and a Few Laughs. It was inspired by a well-worn phrase, "sex, drugs and rock n roll". So, I've put together a little over an hour of songs and some comedy clips, too, that connect to that story. After all, sex and drugs has been a staple of music and comedy to this very day.

The rock n roll part is implicit and I have to admit, selecting tracks for this edition was quite an interesting experience for me. So how this will work: I play one song focused on drugs and one on sex. This does not reflect my lifestyle ... it was purely an intellectual decision. (laugh)

To put it in motion, we start with the guy who has been singled out as one of the first, if not *the* first, to put the phrase out there.

"Sex & Drugs & Rock & Roll" is a 1977 single by Ian Dury,

It was originally released as a [Stiff Records](#) single, with "Razzle in My Pocket" as the [B-side](#), in 1977. To ramp up into Mr. Dury's ditty, I thought Tommy Chong and Cheech Marin, Cheech and Chong, would serve as an appetizer. And, if you don't know who they are, suffice it to say that the topic of drugs was central to their comedy.

RAMP to CUT 1

Cheech and Chong [Cheech Marin](#) and [Tommy Chong](#)

Dave's Not Here

Self Titled debut album 1971

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rtDAK7Umk7A>

PLAYLIST CUT 1:

Ian Dury – Sex and Drugs and Rock n Roll

ALBUM: Stiff Records Single 1977

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sfp8xrNAS6I>

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I dare you to get that one of your head. Ian Dury, the guy who has the distinction of putting the phrase "Sex and Drugs and Rock N Roll" into the vernacular. So, we move into our first drug related song.

PLAYLIST CUT 2:

Eric Clapton – Cocaine

ALBUM: Slowhand, 1977

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aFEPIH4Iq58>

This song is usually associated with Eric Clapton. But it was originally written and performed by J.J. Cale. "Cocaine" became an enduring hit for Eric Clapton a year after its initial incarnation. Clapton has noted that the song is slyly anti-cocaine, --- ya figure --- with lyrics such as "If you wanna get down, down on the ground, cocaine" and "Don't forget this fact, you can't get it back". It suggests a life wasted in pursuit of the next high. From the 1977 album Slowhand, this is Eric Clapton and the classic "Cocaine".

I admit, I have played that song in more jams than I can count and it's always great to play. Eric Clapton and Cocaine. So now we pivot to a song that tackles the subject of sex in rock n roll.

PLAYLIST CUT 3:

Grand Funk Railroad - We're An American Band

ALBUM: We're An American Band, 1973

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zc_JcGuH5Z8

"We're an American Band" by Grand Funk Railroad was inspired by a connection to Sweet Connie, the most famous of all rock 'n' roll groupies She was known for her exceptional ... ummmm ... oral talents. I'm definitely going to get an email about this right?

"We're an American Band" is the seventh [studio album](#) by Grand Funk. The album was released by [Capitol Records](#) in '73 and was certified gold a little over a month after its release. "[We're an American Band](#)", the song, was released as a single in '73 and was the group's first collaboration with [producer/engineer Todd Rundgren](#).

So, this is Grand Funk, singing about the sex part of sex, drugs and rock n roll with "We're An American Band."

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Grand Funk ... and 'We're an American Band' from 1973. And now, the pendulum swings back to drugs in the "Sex, Drugs, And Rock N roll" topic.

PLAYLIST CUT 4:

Jefferson Airplane – White Rabbit

ALBUM: Surrealistic Pillow, 1967

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WANNqr-vcx0>

"White Rabbit" by [Grace Slick](#) was recorded by [Jefferson Airplane](#) for their 1967 album Surrealistic Pillow. It was released as a single and became the band's second top-10 success, peaking at number eight on the [Billboard Hot 100](#). The song appears on [The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's 500 Songs that Shaped Rock and Roll](#). So, all that to say, it's a pretty slick song about drugs. This is Grace Slick and Jefferson Airplane chasing the "White Rabitt". And yah, there's an Alice in Wonderland thing going on here.

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Grace Slick and Jefferson Airplane with White Rabbit.

RAMP to CUT 5:

Amy Schumer) (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= MohXt5n3AM> 1st
2<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= MohXt5n3AM> minutes)

PLAYLIST CUT 5:

Patti LaBelle - Lady Marmalade

ALBUM: Originally released on Eleventh Hour's Greatest Hits

Then on Nightbirds with Labelle, 1974

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tn0-6n_dng4

"Lady Marmalade" is a song famous for its sexually suggestive [French](#) chorus of "[Voulez-vous coucher avec moi?](#)", which translates into [English](#) as "Do you want to sleep with me?" The song first became a popular hit when it was recorded in 1974 by the American [girl group Labelle](#) with Patti LaBelle. Labelle held the number-one spot on the [Billboard Hot 100](#) chart for one week, and also topped the Canadian [RPM](#) national singles chart. In 2021, the [Library of Congress](#) selected Labelle's version for preservation in the [National Recording Registry](#) for being "culturally, historically, or artistically significant."

To lead into Ms. Labelle, I chose this tasty tidbit from comedienne Amy Schumer, known for her unvarnished perspective on the sexual paradigm.

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That's Patti Labelle with Lady Marmalade. Back to drugs. Are you still with me. You are listening to an irreverent version of open mic on BigERadio.com. Feel free to comment on the show's homepage at #bigEradiopenmic. I'm Michael Kryton.

PLAYLIST CUT 6:

Beatles – Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds

ALBUM: Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band, 1967

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=naoknj1ebqI>

It doesn't take a "Paul is dead" clue-spotting, conspiracy theorist to notice the "LSD" embedded in this song's title. While The Beatles were experimenting with psychedelics around the time of Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, John Lennon always claimed he named this tune for a drawing his son Julian did in nursery school. Lennon repeatedly denied that he had intended it as a drug song. He attributed the song's fantastical imagery to his reading of [Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*](#) books.

Some of you already know the song's title. The Beatles and Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds.

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From the Beatles' Sgt, Pepper's Album, "Lucy In the Sky With Diamonds".

PLAYLIST CUT 7:

Queen – I Go Crazy

ALBUM: released as a single, 1981; added to The Works CD, 1984

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3M1W4okenME>

In the rock n roll world, I don't know if any artist, especially those in the 80s, was immune to the sexual overtures that came with groupies and others. Many of these artists ultimately produced a song about that context. Queen's "I go Crazy" was released as the B-side to the single "[Radio Ga Ga](#)". It eventually appeared as a bonus track on the 1991 release of the CD version of The Works. In addition to Freddie Mercury's usual lead vocals, Brian May provides the lead vocals on the bridge portion of the song. I Go Crazy ... this is Queen.

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In the world of sex, drugs and rock n roll, that's Queen and Freddy Mercury's take with I Go Crazy.

PLAYLIST CUT 8:

Fleetwood Mac - Gold Dust Woman

ALBUM: Rumours, 1977

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFUAI_tzfgU

"Gold Dust Woman" is a song from the best-selling [Fleetwood Mac](#) album [Rumours](#) released in 1977.

The song was written and sung by [Stevie Nicks of course](#)

When asked about the song in a later 1997 interview with [Courtney Love](#) for [Spin](#), Nicks confirmed that "Gold Dust" was in fact a metaphor for [cocaine](#).

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From Fleetwood Mac's 1977 Album Rumours, a very moody Gold Dust Woman.

RAMP to CUT 9

Amy Schumer -Terrettes

(<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WggRodqiaGU&list=PLq5o017q9wZDuWgqoFJv5P6EYliv94BnY>
after 14min – 14:30 – 15:26)

PLAYLIST CUT 9:

Salt n Pepa, Push it

SINGLE: 1987

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vCadcBR95oU>

So, let's switch gears. "Push It" is a song by the hip hop group [Salt-N-Pepa](#). It peaked at number 19 on the [Billboard Hot 100](#) in early 1988 and, the song has also been certified Platinum and is ranked number 446 on [Rolling Stone's](#) list of the [500 Greatest Songs of All Time](#).

To lead us into it, we return to comedian Amy Schumer who has no limits to her perspectives on sex.

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An explicit song by Salt n Pepa, Push It from 1987.

PLAYLIST CUT 10:

Nirvana - Dumb (Kurt Cobaine)

ALBUM: In Utero, 1993

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yj11ymez0po>

"Dumb" is a song by Nirvana's [Kurt Cobain](#). It is the sixth song on the band's third and final studio album, *In Utero*, released in 1993. In an interview in the same year with *Melody Maker*, Cobain explained that the song was, and I quote, "just about people who're easily amused, people who not only aren't capable of progressing their intelligence but are totally happy watching 10 hours of television and really enjoy it. I've met a lot of dumb people. They have a shitty job, they may be totally lonely, they don't have a girlfriend, they don't have much of a social life, and yet, for some reason, they're happy."

This song, interestingly enough, was written by Cobain before his addiction to [heroin](#). It's also one of the few Nirvana songs to directly reference drug use.

But here's some info that really struck me. In Cobain's unused liner notes for the song, he blamed, "all that supposedly unaddictive, harmless" [marijuana](#) for harming his nerves and damaging his memory, saying it "wasn't ever strong enough" which led him to "climb the ladder" to heroin. Those of us who know the Cobain story, know how it ends. So, here is a song about drugs from an artist who would succumb to those drugs. Ironic wouldn't you say?

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Nirvana and the song, Dumb, written and performed by Kurt Cobaine.

PLAYLIST CUT 11:

Madonna – Erotica

ALBUM: Erotica, 1992

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WyhdvRWEWRw>

Let's switch gears again as we head into the homestretch of open mic on BigERadio.com. I'm Michael Kryton and I appreciate you sharing your time with me and indulging in this show's theme, Sex, Drugs and a few laughs.

Erotica is the fifth [studio album](#) released simultaneously with Madonna's first book publication, [Sex](#), a [coffee table book](#). It contained explicit photographs featuring Madonna, and marked her first release under Maverick, her own multimedia entertainment company. *Erotica* is a [concept album](#) about sex and romance, incorporating her [alter ego](#), Mistress Dita. If I say anymore, I'm going to get another email. This is Madonna's take on Erotica.

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Madonna, and Erotica. Well, we are the tail end of the story of Sex Drugs and a Few laughs on open mic. I'm Michael Kryton and, as always, my thanks to Todd Crawshaw, Mike Braniff and Lily Becker who work so hard behind the scenes to make the BigERadio online radio community possible. If you would like to leave a comment, please visit my show homepage at #bigeradioopenmic. The Don Burner Show follows, so please stay with us.

RAMP UP TO CUT 12

Bill Hicks: The door is a jar

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whktaYDisk4>

PLAYLIST CUT 12:

The Weekend - Can't Feel My Face

ALBUM: Beauty Behind the Madness, 2015

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEI4qSrKPAAs>

To take us out, Canadian alt-R&B mystery man Abel Tesfaye, aka The Weeknd, went mainstream in a big way with this thinly veiled ode to cocaine. He got some help from Max Martin, the Swedish pop guru behind the infectious beat, and Michael Jackson, whose inspiration is sprinkled all over this track. No drug song can be as addictive as the substance it's about, but this one comes damn close.

"Can't Feel My Face" is a song performed by him from his second studio album [Beauty Behind the Madness](#). The song was released in 2015 as the third single from the album.

Critics lauded "Can't Feel My Face", comparing the sound of the song to the works of [Michael Jackson](#). [Rolling Stone](#) ranked it as the best song of 2015. It was also nominated for two [Grammy Awards](#): [Record of the Year](#) and [Best Pop Solo Performance](#).

And to ramp up to the man, a comedic moment with Bill Hicks. Stay safe and healthy everybody. Be kind to one another. And remember to laugh. We'll do this again.