

Thanks to Ernie, who stepped up and threw down. He assumes Darrow-like talents in my view for convincing my Posse that his client could not have done it—if it doesn't fit, you must acquit. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xFrGuyw1V8s> (Dancing Queen)

Ernie and I thank you all for participating. Twenty one of you took the time, some quite thoughtfully, to respond. I have to say, this stings, but part of the deal is I will stop making fun of ABBA, unless I just cannot help myself. Anyone who wants a private session can contact me and I will give private Pierce Brosnan renderings.

Michael

**Belongs (11):**

- Yes, if only because not that many groups have a longrunning Broadway show and highly successful movie featuring their music (I actually can't think of another group that has had both, but possibly you can). That is unique, and merits recognition in the Roll N Roll Hall of Fame.
- Ernie gets my ignorant outsider's vote. Don't blame that absurd film on them.
- Sorry Michael ...not a real fan of ABBA but I must agree with Ernie on this one. Like 'em or not, many do & their tunes live on.  
I must say your most compelling argument was the Pierce Brosnan video...my eyes and ears still hurt!
- Sorry Michael, I'm siding with your buddy and ABBA.
- This is a hard decision; the arguments on both sides are thoughtful and well-expressed. My first reaction was to vote NO, because ABBA reminds me more of groups like the Little River Band (decent songs that were popular and tuneful) than to the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Aretha, etc. But I have been thinking more about ABBA's influence on world music. Certainly, Eurodisco is an authentic category that should be represented in the RRHF. What band/artist epitomizes Eurodisco? I cannot think of anyone who would be more appropriate than ABBA for that genre. So, I have changed my mind. I vote YES to ABBA.
- MMMM. Not many takers on this one. Fernando just came on on my iPod, and I admit it, I have ABBA Gold in it. The RRHoF is more a pop music hall of fame, so in that category they belong. Their impact was global and quite astonishing (yes, in multiple ways). Of course, I would be REALLY impressed if they inducted El Gran Combo.
- yea
- Of course they do. Based on who already is in. Not comparing talents nor bodies of respective work, being the top pop vocal groups in a particular era should not be the basis for ruling that type of group out. The Coasters, The Dells, The Drifters, The Famous Flames, and many other "pop" vocal groups are in. Why not ABBA? Because their music was too sugary? They were

too pop? (If there is such a thing) Too cute? Too fake? Did I mention too cute? Too overproduced? Too everything? Just not their fault. And of the 2013 class, as much as I do like Heart, but really? – they get in before: Chicago, Supertramp, Yes, Steppenwolf, Roxy Music, and Three Dog Night. And please don't get me started with the blatant omissions of the great TLA bands (three letter acronym): ELO, REO, BOC, and both OMD's (Orchestral Maneuvers in the Dark and the Ozark Mountain Daredevils.)

- I vote that ABBA does deserve to be included. I am like those members of the jury who ignore both briefs, and base my vote on my own experience of seeing the joy on the faces of the audience members who danced in the aisles during a Mama Mia performance....and I was one of them.
- Amigo, of course ABBA deserves it.
- Hands down YAY! Well written briefs. Michael makes great points. As for me, I go with Ernie Sanchez and agree with his analysis, especially these bullets:  
5) ABBA greatly influenced some of the most important groups of the 1970's and 1980's and has had undeniable lasting influence on alternative rock, dance music and power pop including the Spice Girls and Kylie Minogue. In addition, ABBA members personally produced Led Zeppelin, the Ramones, Genesis, Roxy Music, and the Beastie Boys. Recently Dave Grogh of the Foo Fighters said the group's album "Wasting Light" drew inspiration from ABBA and their use of anthemic choruses.  
6) Elvis Costello, Madonna, Chrissie Hynde of the Pretenders have credited ABBA with influencing their music. In addition, Peter Townsend of the Who, Ray Davies of the Kinks, Kurt Cobain, U2 and John Lennon have claimed to be ABBA fans.  
Thank you for the music ;)

**Does not belong (10):**

- NO!
- ABBA is, at best, a collection of craftspeople. Their songs and renditions are almost pedestrian at times. Their appeal seems to be to an early bubblegum crowd that never quite gave them up. While some of their music has been picked up and used in films, they constitute mainly a penchant for elevator music. As for being worthy of membership in the RRHF, it's questionable.
- Noooooooooooooooooooooo!
- of course, Abba belongs in the same "tent" with Alvin and the Chipmunks, the Monkees, and Scoobey Doo!!!! I was actually enjoying a perfectly good Arturo Fuente cigar until I saw this email. Thanks for nothing!
- I vote no.

- NO, Although ABBA has some interesting harmonies I dont believe that they should be in the R&R Hall of fame.
- no
- Not a hard decision - for me - no. However I know there are a lot of people who love ABBA out there
- They are not even in the Songwriter Hall of Fame, which is easier to get into...
- Since they are already in the Hall of Fame, Michael had the tougher row to hoe, but on balance, he is right. Thanks for this great pop quiz for your posse. Now go see some interesting concerts, since I really love your reviews.

