Subject: Male vocalists-- New Thread
Posted by lon on Wed, 22 Mar 2006 03:07:39 GMT
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After just hearing a talk sjow about what being manly is whichis not worth discussing (the author pointed to Rumsfeld asone of his good examples) the subject of male vocalists deserves as much attention as we've devoted to women.As contemporary performers, I know few of the Buster Poindextervariety of lounge singers that are about today.But I do have some favorite male vocalists each for differentreasons.The best vocalist in Popular Music is Ray Benson of Asleep AtThe Wheel. I don't mean Country and Western popular music, I mean _all_ popular music regardless of category. This is notto compare singers for their pyrotechnic ability, how loud or howlong or even how high or how low they can sing. The best meansquality of sound, resonance, delivery hey, what else is there?In concert Benson always says (and I can't do this with type on the screen) that what he does is Western musicor "(little small voice 'country') and WESTERN music," shoutingit out. The Ray Benson sound is not forced in any way. And the factthat I like Western Swing and swing music in general may havesomething to do with it. Especially good is Ray Benson on"House of Blue Lights" which I think was originally doneby the Mills Brothers. Randy Travers, George Straight and therest of the nasal crowd doing Country music are too embarrassingto listen to.So Ray Benson is the Popular Music vocalist with which to compareothers.In jazz, there's a lot more to choose from. Like Georgie Fameamongst others.