

Listening List 2024

Curated by the Y's Black Experience Staff Advisory Committee

Long Live Soca by Voice	Angel by Halle Bailey	This Island is Mine by Skinny Fabulous	D'Music Safe and Sound feat. David Rudder
<p>More than revelry or rhyme, there are elements of our culture that make Carnival a very special part of us. Carnival is our own. Tens of thousands walking a thousand miles, infected with d' rhythm. A rhythm born right here. Soca music is our own. Let us all take a deep breath, fill our lungs with life, and shout as one...Long Live Soca!</p>	<p>Angel is the debut solo single by American singer-songwriter Halle. The song was released on August 4, 2023 as the lead single from Bailey's upcoming debut studio album. The song is nominated at the upcoming 66th Annual Grammy Awards for Best R&B Song.</p>	<p>There is nobody more proud of their nationality than island people. No matter where they go abroad, island people are always quick to remind everyone around them where their navel string is buried. "This Island (Is Mine)" is Skinny Fabulous' heartfelt confession and celebration of his immense love for his homeland, St. Vincent and the Grenadines.</p>	<p>King David Michael Rudder is a musical legend on the islands of Trinidad and Tobago. Filmed in the summer of 2021, this precious recording is made even more special since David Rudder announced his Parkinson's disease diagnosis and that his time on stage is winding down.</p>
<p><i>Notes from the committee:</i> <i>This song encapsulates my love for both Soca and Mas (short for 'masquerade', which is the heart of Carnival); both of which work together to energize and sustain us. In the words of Voice — I can't live without Soca! Long Live Soca!</i> Listen to Long Live Soca by Voice</p>	<p><i>Notes from the committee:</i> <i>This is a great song about having self-love and seeing your inner beauty and strength. The song is by a Black girl for other Black girls but applies to anyone who needs a confidence boost. :)</i> Watch the official Angel by Halle Bailey video</p>	<p><i>Notes from the committee:</i> <i>This song (backed by Rodney Small, one of SVG's top steelpan players) always gets me moving and helps to remind me why I love my beautiful homeland but also helps others to be reminded to not forget where they are from.</i> Watch the This Island Is Mine music video</p>	<p><i>Notes from the committee:</i> <i>Memories of my childhood are inextricably linked to the songs of David Rudder. "Songs to make a politician cringe," his calypso is often the balm that is needed to soothe a nation and a weary world.</i> Watch the entire performance</p>