



## MEDIA MECHANICS WINS TWO 2009 NEW YORK FESTIVAL AWARDS

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San Francisco -- [Media Mechanics](#) and producer Ben Manilla wins the 2009 Silver World Medal award for "*Electric Ladyland: The 40th Anniversary Special*", Best Music Special as well as the Bronze World Medal for "*The Sounds of American Culture*" in the Culture & The Arts category. Since 2008, Media Mechanics has been awarded 5 New York Festival Awards.

**Electric Ladyland: The 40th Anniversary Special:** 40 years ago, The Jimi Hendrix Experience released their only double album. It proved to be the last studio album Jimi completed before his death. On every "greatest record of all-time", Electric Ladyland showcases Hendrix at his most experimental. "Electric Ladyland: The 40th Anniversary Special" chronicles the making of the album by the people who were there (Jimi Hendrix, Mitch Mitchell, Noel Redding, Eddie Kramer, Jack Casady, Steve Winwood, and Velvert Turner.) Other interviews include Angela Davis, Reuben Jackson, Jonny Lang, and Billy Cox.

**"The Sounds of American Culture":** Each year, the Library of Congress selects 25 sound recordings that it deems "culturally, historically or aesthetically" significant for induction into the National Recording Registry. In 2008, three of these recordings were the subjects of short documentaries broadcast on NPR's "Weekend All Things Considered."

**1. T-Bone Walker, "Call It Stormy Monday" (11/09/08):** T-Bone Walker swung the blues, made his guitar cry like no one else and wrote a classic in "Call It Stormy Monday (But Tuesday's Just As Bad)." Walker first recorded "Stormy Monday" in 1947. This groundbreaking musician is profiled by two of his protégés – B.B. King and Duke Robillard. In addition, his daughter, Bernita Walker, says the song is a classic because it still speaks to everyone today.

**2. Roy Orbison, "Oh, Pretty Woman (12/06/08):** December 2008 marked the 20th anniversary of the death of rock 'n' roll pioneer Roy Orbison, and the Library of Congress has added Orbison's song, "Oh, Pretty Woman" to the National Recording Registry. The song was written for Orbison's first wife, Claudette Frady. One day, she left for the store and by the time she returned, Orbison and his songwriting partner, Bill Dees, had written what would become his most enduring hit. Bill Dees and Roy's second wife, Barbara, share the history of the song Springsteen calls, "the best girl-watching song ever."

**3. Kitty Wells, "It Wasn't God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels" (12/14/08):** In 1952, Hank Thompson's "The Wild Side of Life" addressed wild women and finding women on the wild side of life. Without a female voice, it was natural that an answer song was in order. When the young country singer, Kitty Wells, released the answer, "It Wasn't God Who Made Honky Tonk Angels," the song became the first Number One hit for a solo woman artist and caused quite a bit of controversy because of its "liberated" message. The Queen of Country Music herself, Kitty Wells, remembers the recording while historian, Mary Bufwack, and singer, Emmylou Harris, help put the song in perspective.

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