

# The 53rd GRAMMY Awards

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Photos Courtesy of Google



...What has it come to?

## EPIC PERFORMANCES (or lack there of)

When watching an award show put on by the supposedly best in the business, we can't help but to expect nothing less than breathtaking performances. After weeks of seeing advertisement after advertisement for the 53rd Annual Grammy Awards I can honestly say I was looking forward to jaw dropping entertainment from the long list of stars selected to perform, such as, Lady GaGa, Eminem, Justin Bieber, Muse, Bruno Mars, and plenty more. Though there was a lot of hype created for the performers, some just failed to deliver. Here's the good, the bad and the ugly from this year's Grammy Awards.

Let's start with the worst way to open a show designed to celebrate the progression of the music industry, an Aretha Franklin tribute focusing on the past. Maybe Christina Aguilera, Jennifer Hudson, Florence and the Machine's Florence Welch, Yolanda Adams and Martina McBride's performance would have been less boring if they scheduled it somewhere in the middle of the show when viewers could take a nice long bathroom break without worrying about missing a thing.

The next performance would have been much more worthy of the opening spot. Bruno Mars, Janelle Monae, and B.o.B came together to perform Nothing on You, and then Bruno Mars took the stage with an epic old school 60s performance with the help of his ragtime background singers.

Unfortunately the great Lady GaGa, failed to keep the audience bewildered with this performance however she did manage to keep us, well, annoyed.

Coming on to stage the same way she showed up on the Red Carpet (in her giant egg thing), she continued to perform Born This Way, which is strikingly similar to Madonna's song Express Yourself, with mediocre dance moves in unsettling flesh tone suits with shoulder pads. Surely, we can't expect a blood drenched performance from GaGa every time, but I just simply couldn't see any artistic value.

Muse staged a revolution with their killer performance of their hit song Uprising. Though the group has performed this song prior to the Grammys in the 2010 Video Music Awards, they managed to amp things up with dancers performing as rioters setting fires among other actions of rebellion.

Well she definitely can sing, but can she put on an epic Grammy performance? Me thinks not. Miranda Lambert showed off her voice, although that's all she showed off. There was no sparkle in her performance other than her shiny cocktail dress. We expected a little more.

When all is said and done we applaud the Grammy performers that really showed us what we love, and we criticize those that lacked the ability to do so, that is until we can set our targets on the next award show anyway.



## WINNERS

Record Of The Year  
"Need You Now" - Lady Antebellum

Album Of The Year  
"The Suburbs" - Arcade Fire

Best New Artist  
Esperanza Spalding

Best Female Pop Vocal Performance  
"Bad Romance" - Lady GaGa

Best Male Pop Vocal Performance  
"Just The Way You Are" - Bruno Mars

Best Pop Vocal Album  
"The Fame Monster" - Lady GaGa

Best Rock Album  
"The Resistance" - Muse

Best Rap Album  
"Recovery" - Eminem

Best Country Album  
"Need You Now" - Lady Antebellum

Best Dance Recording  
"Only Girl (In The World)" - Rihanna

Winners that made us say, "WTHH?"



## Who Got Robbed

A night meant for celebration and recognition of those talented artists whose music has shown remarkable success and popularity has unfortunately become a cycle of disappointments and contradictions year after year. The Annual Grammy Awards have, yet again, brought out negative reactions from its outraged viewers and artists participating in the award show. Well, at least they're consistent.

It's completely mind-boggling how artists such as Eminem, Justin Bieber, and Drake, whose album sales are undeniably much higher than those of the other (lesser-known) nominees, were blatantly robbed out of their well deserved awards. Artists most worthy of awards in categories like Album of the Year or Song of the Year are easily distinguished by their album sales. Numbers don't lie.

Why else would supporters go out and actually purchase albums and songs from their favorite artists than to show their love and support their success? It's about time people start realizing the effect this on going conspiracy is having on artists and audiences.

There is a great need for concern for the legitimacy of the Grammy Awards when the biggest names in the

industry are invited to perform and yet are forced to sit in their seats and watch another artist accept an award that is rightfully theirs.

It would be unbelievable if anyone resisted shouting a few unmentionables at the television after Esperanza Spalding was named Best New Artist Of The Year, well maybe it would be believable, but only if said person's name was Helen Keller. I was waiting for Ashton Kutcher to pop out and make Esperanza What's-Her-Face say, "I just got punk'd," into the camera. Seriously, where's a Kanye West stage takeover moment when you need one?

As far as this year's Grammys go, the only thing I'm grateful for is that it provided me with much more ammunition for my arsenal against these absurd award shows. Are they luring in the audience with the most popular artists' performances to get a lot of viewers then purposely create a show that goes against all expectations?

The artists that won the awards and the artists that the audience was rooting for did not correspond with each other at all, and I'm sure I'm not alone when I say that it's time for a change in the system.

