

Bonga's Beats - Electric mix

 By [Bonga Percy Vilakazi](#)

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Bonga Percy Vilakazi looks at and listens to a diverse mix of music this week including a collection of Josh Groban hits, the latest offering from the smooth Jamie Foxx, all the heavy hitters on the Grammy 2009 compilation, Tandiswa's long awaited album Ibokwe, and one of the America Idol singer winners; David Cook.



JOSH GROBAN - A COLLECTION

25 millions later, it was only fair for Groban's label to decide to release a collection of some of his greatest songs to date. At only 27 years old, this is huge achievement for this talented lad. Some of the songs in the album include Josh's version of You Raise Me Up, which the first version of the song to have become a major hit (after being recorded a number of times by other artists prior to Josh) and was later covered by Westlife. The album also features the rare live version of 'Weeping' recorded with our own Grammy award winning Soweto Gospel Choir and Vusi Mahlasela at the Mandela Concert in Hyde Park. The album was actually released just before Christmas so it also features a second CD, highlighting festive songs such as 'Silent Night', 'Little Drummer Boy' and 'Ave Maria'

GRAMMY NOMINEES 2009

Presented annually by the Recording Academy, the Grammy is the most prestigious award in the American music industry. The exciting thing about this release is that it features some of the most exciting newcomers in the industry, like Adele, Jazmine Sullivan, Duffy and the Jonas Brothers. This collection provides a good overview of what last year had to offer. It's a good mix of rock, pop, R&B, hip-hop and country. Other artists featured are Coldplay, Katy Perry, P!nk and Leone Lewis.



JAMIE FOXX - INTUITION

There is no denying that Jamie Foxx is a bloody talented singer. Many noticed after winning an Oscar in the Ray Charles movie. But Foxx has been singing long before that. Good an album as Intuition is, it lacks the balance between the party, dance songs and the ballads. There's no doubt that young teens will be playing this album day in day out. I just feel that Jamie could have sung more songs to showcase the voice that won the hearts of all the people that watched him in Ray.

THANDISWA - IBOKWE

This album is by far the most anticipated release of 2009. Everyone has been waiting for it. Well, it's finally here and it was worth the wait. I should mention that if you were expecting something similar to her debut solo album, this sounds nothing like it. Instead, most of the songs sound like they were influenced by the legendary Busi Mhlongo. The first single Ingoma is already dominating the airwaves. For the sake of preserving excellence and learning what good music is about, get this CD.



DAVID COOK - DAVID COOK

Having won American Idols in 2008, David was immediately under pressure to release an album that will meet expectations. Judging by the number of copies sold (currently over one million), his fans seem to be perfectly satisfied. The songs that Cook sings (Time of my Life, Light On, I Did It For You) suit his husky, expressive voice that almost reminds me of 90's superstar Michael Bolton. Cook just has a

rockier feel. This album is exactly what the legions of fans that David made for himself on Idol have been hoping for.

ABOUT BONGA PERCY VILAKAZI

Bonga Percy Vilakazi is currently the Music Supervisor for the daily hit youth drama on etv, Rhythm City; where he is also one of the story liners. He is also a monthly contributor for Soul Magazine where he was the Senior Writer; and also frequently writes for True Love and Drum; where he has interviewed a host of local and international celebrities including Tyler Perry, Toni Braxton, Deborah Cox, India Arie, Maxwell and Kenny Lattimore.

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