

Media Questions Of The Week

Did Kendrick Lamar steal the Super Bowl Halftime show?



Why didn't Jennifer Hudson receive a Best Actress Oscar nomination for her portrayal of Aretha Franklin in *Respect*?

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Did Jennifer Hudson nail the role of Aretha Franklin in the new biopic *Respect*?

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? ANNOUNCING ? Earth, Wind & Fire featuring [@iamluckydaye](#) – Coming August 20th! pic.twitter.com/a0eZj5E9nD

– Earth, Wind & Fire (@EarthWindFire) [August 13, 2021](#)

Will Lucky Daye uphold the Earth, Wind & Fire legacy now that he is a part of the group?

Aretha Franklin's *RESPECT* Starring Jennifer Hudson Receives New Trailer

A new trailer for the Aretha Franklin biopic *RESPECT* starring Jennifer Hudson was unveiled by MGM. Liesl Tommy directs the film that also stars Forest Whitaker, Marlon Wayans, Audra McDonald, Tituss Burgess, Tate Donovan, Heather Headley, Kimberly Scott and Mary J. Blige. The movie chronicles Franklin's life from being a young girl singing in her father C.L. Franklin's church to the trials she went through finding her artistic voice to become the Queen Of Soul. Franklin chose Hudson to play her in the film and they were in communication with each other until shortly before Franklin's death in 2018 at the age of 76 from pancreatic cancer. Whitaker plays Franklin's father and Marlon Wayans is her ex-husband Ted White. Tituss Burgess was cast as the gospel pioneer James Cleveland and Mary J. Blige is jazz legend Dinah Washington. *RESPECT* will open in theaters on August 13, 2021.

Throwback: Aretha Franklin - Jump To It

Aretha Franklin recorded her 28th album *Jump To It* in 1981 and it was released in 1982. Luther Vandross fulfilled a lifelong dream when he was given the job of exclusively producing a project for one of his musical idols. Miller and Vandross wrote the title song which was about Franklin ready to move when her lover calls. Miller played the bass and Vandross

sang backup on the song that also had Nat Adderley Jr., Fonzi Thornton, Cissy Houston and Tawatha Agee among its personnel. "Jump To It" was a hit heard everywhere in the summer of 1982 including radio, cookouts, clubs, roller rinks and car radios because it was so catchy. Franklin was brilliant and coolly added a sophisticated jazz scat into the plush tones of her standard-bearing soulful delivery. She had a comeback with "Jump To It" because it was her first Gold-certified record and pop hit since 1976. It was the beginning of Franklin's successes in the '80s which included pop and gospel recordings that kept her on the charts. *Jump To It*, the album, earned an American Music Award for Best Soul Album in 1983.

Franklin passed in 2018 after an almost six-decade career. As the Queen of Soul, she helped to create the genre and showed the world how blues, gospel and pop could be used to take the ebbs and flows of life to create beautiful songs that will connect with people forever. In 2021, National Geographic aired the eight-part series *Genius: Aretha* about Franklin's life. The motion picture *RESPECT* starring Jennifer Hudson as Franklin is expected to be in theaters also in 2021.