Corey's Top Ten 2022 Concerts

In 2022 My daughter attended many of the shows I saw and ALL of the show that made this year's list. Her mom joined us for six. While perhaps we could have made a few more, I enjoyed sharing my music with my Marisa who also digs live music.

1) The Who really delivered. Roger Daltrey's vocals; Pete Townsend's music. Sound. Energy. Some of my all-time fave songs. It was also our first visit to UBS and I enjoyed the venue. Unlike Giants & MetLife stadia and the Meadowland very easy to depart. As I blogged the Sunday following the concert, I found the Who performance the best I attended this year, and I attended some really good ones: It could have been best show I attended this year – energy, skill, quality and overall songs set (Still some to go.). The Who performed a good sampling of tunes from *Tommy* (Overture, 1921, Amazing Journey, Sparks, Pinball Wizard and We're Not Gonna Take It) and Quadrophenia (The Real Me, I'm One, 5:15, The Rock, Love, Reign O'er Me) backed by a full Orchestra and three from Who's Next (Won't Get Fooled Again, Behind Blue Eyes and Baba O'Riley). Other tunes included Naked Eye and Relay. The encore (of sorts because they never left the stage) was their cover Young Man Blues from Live at Leeds. One cute aside (and you can hear it at the beginning of Overture, Pete Townsend shouts out "Queens" instead of Nassau or Long Island, a direct result probably of viewing a sign stating entering Queens on the southbound Cross Island on his limo ride to the arena.) It was a special day so seeing such an amazing band made it all the more special. Song highlights included The Real Me, '5:15, Love, Reign O'er Me and Baba O'Riley. You can find many of the tunes on YouTube Date: October 7. Venue: UBS Arena.

2) <u>Sir Paul McCartney</u> (special guest Bruce Springsteen)

Marisa said this show needed to be at or near the top. <u>40 songs!</u> Believe or not my first time. A good mix of Beatles, Wings and solo. It was a light band. Highlights included Maybe I'm Amazed, Get Back, Band on the Run, the virtual duet with John Lennon on I Got A Feelin', Let It Be and Hey Jude. Date: June 16. Venue: MetLife Stadium at the Meadowlands.

- 3) Glenn Tilbrook (best solo performer show) Not many artists can fit the troubadour unaccompanied solo artist moniker. At the very least most artists enjoy the support of at least one accomplished sideman. I probably saw John B. Sebastian in troubadour mode the most; Roger McGuinn second. No offense to the former leaders of the Lovin' Spoonful and The Byrds respectively but this concert by Squeeze primary vocalist and lead guitarist Glenn Tilbrook gets the "GOAT" that some football purists use concerning a QB that used to lead the team that "stole" the "HC of the NY Jets" back in the day. He played about half the show on acoustic guitar before turning to electric. Glenn played deep cuts such as "I've Returned" from the now four-decade old Sweets with A Stranger and "Women's World" from East Side Story. Using my iPhone, Marisa took the brief videos of Glenn's cover of "Don't You Want Me" by the Human League (which Glenn and family covered in a home video cut during the pandemic available on YouTube) and My fave Squeeze tune, "Black Coffee in Bed." He covered every Squeeze single but "Cool for Cats" (on which Chris Difford sang lead).

 Date: September 30. Venue: City Winery.
- 4) <u>The Doobie Brothers</u> A Reunion show of sorts but it feature both Michael McDonald <u>and</u> Tom Johnston, along with Patrick Simmons and John McFee. Three guitars, kickass songs. Imagine these six to close a show: What a Fool Believes, Long Train Runnin', China Grove, Encore: Black Water, Takin' It to the Streets, Listen to the Music. Exactly the kind of show that gives you an aural high! Date: June 21. Venue: Northwell Health Theater at Jones Beach.

5) Sir <u>Elton John</u> While Marisa and I also took in the March 6 Nassau Coliseum show, the one in the City of Brotherly Love which Shelly also attended certainly offered a level of intimacy albeit in a ballpark. Personal high lights included Border Song, Tiny Dancer, Take Me to the Pilot, Levon and our wedding tune, Your Song.

Date: July 15. Venue: Citizens Bank Park, Philadelphia.

6) <u>Jackson Browne</u> Marisa was seeing Jackson for the first time; I saw him first nearly 50 years ago at Wollman Rink at the great ever summer concert series the former president killed off. Jackson played many of my fave tunes including Before the Deluge, For a Dancer, Runnin' on Empty and the Eagles arrangement on Take It Easy.

Date: July 27. Venue: Beacon Theatre.

- 7) <u>Billy Joel</u> We found this Billy Joel performance not only noteworthy but much better that the show eight years earlier that still made my annual top ten listomy. Unfortunately (for many New York sports fans), he remains the Garden's best franchise. The finale and encore really ruled: Scenes from an Italian Restaurant and Piano Man to close and for the encore: We Didn't Start the Fire, It's Still Rock and Roll to Me, Big Shot, and You May Be Right (with Led Zeppelin's 'Rock and Roll' snippet) Date: August 24. Venue: Madison Square Garden.
- 8) <u>Jim Messina</u> Jimmy played in two iconic bands Buffalo Springfield and Poco (co-founder) before forming a band with Kenny Loggins. The show feature selections from his entire catalogue, including Thinking of You, Follow Your Dreams, You Better Think Twice, Listen to a Country Song, Trilogy: Lovin' Me / To Make a Woman Feel Wanted / Peace of Mind, Be Free and Angry Eyes. Date: June 22. Venue: City Winery.
- 9) Richie Furay in June We drove out of state to see Richie Furay play in an intimate setting where he live streamed a show. It was originally billed as an acoustic show, but it featured an eight-piece band. In part it was a pre-release party for a new recording, "In the Country." During a pre-show dinner I reminded Richie that Marisa first saw him at a show, also out of state, in West Haven, Connecticut; she was 12 going on 13. Shelly of course told Richie that Marisa would call out at 3 and 4 for Poco; I did not contradict but actually she would say play (Pickin' Up the) "Pieces" or play "Consequently" (, So Long). First tune was one Marisa use to call for, the title tune from Poco's first album, Pickin' Up the Pieces. He followed it with a more recent tune he wrote about Poco, "We Were the Dreamers," from his 2015 CD, Hand In Hand. He played one Buffalo Springfield tune, I do not recall him singing, Stephen Stills' "Sit Down, I Think I Love You." At age 78, Richie (below) still can hold a tune. He closed with the classic, A Good Feelin' to Know. Classic artist. Classic show. Date: June 11. Venue: Alpha Wave Studios, Whippany, NJ.
- 10) John Lennon Tribute honoring Joan Osborne The Lennon Tribute fascinated. Joan Osborne turned her acceptance speech into her performance (*Run for Your Life*, *Getting Better*, *Help!* and three Lennon covers: *Woman is the Nigger of the World*, *Jealous Guy* and *Woman*); past shows featured a presentation after intermission and later the honoree returns to close, followed by all the performers closing out the show. This one differed. The performances includes brief sets by Larry Campbell & Teresa Williams (*You've Got to Hide Your Love Away* and *And Your Bird Can Sing*), David Broza (*Girl* and *Julia*), Willie Nile (*It's Only Love* and *Tomorrow Never Knows*), Martin Sexton (*In My Life* and *A Day in the Life* in the first set and *She said* and *Dear Prudence* after intermission), The (Pete and Maura) Kennedys (*Norwegian Wood* and *Nowhere Man*, Catherine Russell (*I'm Only Sleeping* and with Joan Osborne, *Whatever Gets You Thru the Night* and *Imagine*), and the house band led by

drummer Rich Pagano who also performs with The Fab Faux which opened a cover of The Beatles' *One After 909* and later covered Lennon's *Out of the Blue* with Maura Kennedy. The full ensemble, joined by Simon Kirke, drummer for Free and Bad Company – two of my all-time fave bands, closed with *Revolution 1* with Joan and Willie trading lead vocals and *Give Peace A Chance*. Date: October 8. Venue: Symphony Space.

Honorable mention: <u>Tina</u>, March 26, Lunt-Fontanne Theatre; <u>Fab Faux</u>, June 19, City Winery; Richie Furay, Nov 11 My Father's Place. <u>Hot Tuna</u>. Dec 10, Paramount; Mr. Saturday Night, Aug 13, Nederland Theater; and <u>Southside Johnny & the Asbury Jukes opening for the Marshall Tucker Band</u> Nov. 3 Beacon Theatre.