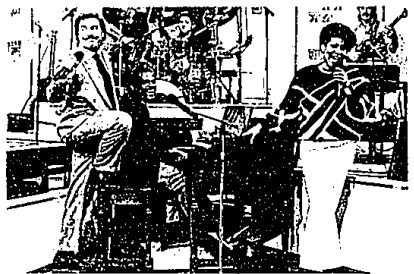


# Motown wasn't only sound



## Taping Aretha

Show business personalities David Brenner and Tony Orlando both came to town to tape special appearances on their shows by Aretha Franklin, the "Queen of Soul," who lives in Bloomfield Hills. Comedian Brenner (above), host of the nationally syndicated TV program "NightLife," recently taped a show with Franklin in her home. Air date is 12:30 a.m. Wednesday on WDIV-TV. While musical director Billy Preston, also of "NightLife," and Brenner visited with the renowned vocalist, she sang songs from her newest album. She also joined Preston in a rendition of the Christmas carol "O Holy Night." Franklin (below) was among celebrity guests recently seen on "The Tony Orlando Show," taped weekdays before an audience and airing the same day, locally on WDIV-TV. She — and Billy Preston at the piano — joined with Orlando to perform "You Are So Beautiful" during the second week of the show's production. Based on the success of the program in the Detroit market, "The Tony Orlando Show" would be produced in Los Angeles for national syndication. Studio audiences were present during the Orlando tapings, which took place in Detroit for eight weeks, through Dec. 12.



Is there anybody here who doesn't love Motown?  
I don't mean our gritty city. I mean the record company and the music — the Supremes, Four Tops, Marvin Gaye, the Temptations and more.  
Songs like "Where Did Our Love Go?" "Bernadette," "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" and "Can't Get Next to You."  
Maybe it's because of the film "The Big Chill," which featured all those over-30 folks yuppeling around a kitchen while Motown records blared. Or maybe it's because most of us grew up just outside the Motor City. But when the subject of soul music comes up, we tend to talk Motown, Motown and only Motown.  
Thanks largely to the Blues Brothers, there's been a revival of interest in that other major soul record company of the '60s, Atlantic.  
Headquartered in Memphis, Atlantic's stars included Otis Redding, Sam and Dave, Aretha Franklin (who lives in Bloomfield Hills) and Wilson Pickett. Songs like "Sittin' on the Dock of the Bay," "Soul Man," "Respect" and "Mustang Sally."  
In contrast to the Motown sound, Atlantic soul had more guitars and less orchestra backing, more emphasis on solo singers than groups and riling horns rather than Motown's bell-like vibe accents.  
THE ATLANTIC sound was less dense and a bit wilder. Smokey Robinson cooed his "Ooh, Baby, Baby," while the Wicked Pickett shrieked, "Get It! Get It! Get It! — OWWW!"  
The Blues Brothers understood the fun side of Atlantic soul. They borrowed the rollicking horn intro from Redding's "I Can't Turn You Loose" for their own stage entrance theme. Now, college marching bands even play it at football games.  
Earlier this year, Atlantic released seven two-record sets of its best soul and rhythm and blues from the '40s through the '70s. For those not initiated in the joys of the Atlantic soul sound, Volume Six — it covers the mid-to-late '60s — attacks up to most any Motown collection.  
Take note, holiday shoppers.  
Slide one opens with Pickett's "Land of 1,000 Dances," featuring those trademark Atlantic horns, Pickett's playful vocals and that catchy "Na-na-na-na-na" chorus.  
Then there's "Sweet Soul Music" ("Do you like good music? — Yes, yes"). Like several songs in the collection, it's one you may have passed over back in the '60s in deference to



learn a lot from MG's guitarist Steve Cropper.  
Aretha Franklin is represented with "Chain of Fools," and "Respect," revived of late by that loony on TV's "Moonlighting." Hip-synching to this Aretha classic. Side three also includes her "You Make Me Feel Like a Natural Woman."  
My favorite in this volume is the Bar-Kays "Soulfinger." This exuberant, wacky instrumental number also was included in the soundtrack to the recent film "Spies Like Us."  
It's just one more example of the staying power of this soul music note count. Eddie Van Halen could from Memphis.

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