

Hancock nabs album of year at Grammy show

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LOS ANGELES — Herbie Hancock pulled an upset in Los Angeles Sunday night when he nabbed the Grammy Award for Album of the Year for "River: The Joni Letters." Hancock's cover album of Joni Mitchell songs was up against CDs by Foo Fighters, Vince Gill, Kanye West and Amy Winehouse for the honor.

Local talent Ne-Yo won the Grammy for Contemporary R&B Album for his song "Because of You," Ne-Yo.

"Joni Mitchell. Joni Mitchell. Joni Mitchell. Thank you so much," Hancock said as he accepted the trophy. "It's been 43 years

since the first and only time that a jazz artist got the Album of the Year award. I'd like to thank the academy for courageously breaking the mold this time and in doing so honoring the giants upon whose shoulders I stand."

Rapper Kanye West paid tribute to his late mother Donda by singing his ballad "Hey Mama" at the 50th Grammy Awards ceremony in Los Angeles Sunday night.

West, nominated for eight Grammys, also shaved the word "Mama" into his hair. Before performing the slow-tempo song, he gave an electrifying rendition of his hit "Stronger." In a pre-telecast ceremony Sunday, West won



Herbie Hancock poses with the awards for best album of the year and best contemporary jazz album at the 50th Annual Grammy Awards on Sunday in Los Angeles.

50th Grammy Awards winners

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Album of the Year: "River: The Joni Letters," Herbie Hancock.

Record of the Year: "Rehab," Amy Winehouse.

Song of the Year: "Rehab," Amy Winehouse (Amy Winehouse).

New Artist: Amy Winehouse.

Pop Vocal Album: "Back to Black," Amy Winehouse.

Female Pop Vocal Performance: "Rehab," Amy Winehouse.

Male Pop Vocal Performance: "What Goes Around... Comes Around," Justin Timberlake.

Pop Instrumental Album: "The Mix-Up," Beastie Boys.

Rap Album: "Graduation," Kanye West.

Rap Solo Performance: "Stronger," Kanye West.

Rap Performance by a Duo or Group: "Southside," Common, featuring Kanye West.

Rap/Sung Collaboration: "Umbrella," Rihanna Featuring Jay-Z.

Rap Song: "Good Life," Aldrin Davis, Mike Dean, Faheem Najm & Kanye West, songwriters (J. Ingram & Q. Jones, songwriters) (Kanye West Featuring T-Pain).

R&B Album: "Funk This," Chaka Khan.

R&B Song: "No One," Dirty Harry, Kerry Brothers & Alicia Keys, songwriters (Alicia Keys).

Contemporary R&B Album: "Because of You," Ne-Yo.

Female R&B Vocal Performance: "No One," Alicia Keys.

Male R&B Vocal Performance: "Future Baby Mama," Prince.

R&B Performance by a Duo or Group With Vocals: "Disrespectful," Chaka Khan, featuring Mary J. Blige.

Traditional R&B Vocal Performance: "In My Songs," Gerald Levert.

Urban/Alternative Performance: "Daydreamin'," Lupe Fiasco, featuring Jill Scott.

Dance Recording: "LoveStoned/I Think She Knows," Justin Timberlake, Nate (Danja) Hills, Timbaland & Justin Timberlake, producers; Jimmy Douglass & Timbaland, mixers.

Traditional Blues Album: "Last of the Great Mississippi Delta Bluesmen: Live In

Dallas," Henry James Townsend, Joe Willie "Pinetop" Perkins, Robert Lockwood Jr. & David "Honeyboy" Edwards.

Contemporary Blues Album: "The Road to Escondido," JJ Cale & Eric Clapton.

Contemporary Jazz Album: "River: The Joni Letters," Herbie Hancock.

Jazz Vocal Album: "Avant Gershwin," Patti Austin.

Jazz Instrumental Solo: "Anagram," Michael Brecker, soloist.

Jazz Instrumental Album, Individual or Group: "Pilgrimage," Michael Brecker.

Large Jazz Ensemble Album: "A Tale of God's Will (A Requiem for Katrina)," Terence Blanchard.

Reggae: "Mind Control," Stephen Marley.

Gospel Performance: "Blessed & Highly Favored," The Clark Sisters; "Never Gonna Break My Faith," Aretha Franklin & Mary J. Blige (Featuring The Harlem Boys Choir). (Tie.)

Gospel Song: "Blessed & Highly Favored," Karen Clark-Sheard, songwriter (The Clark Sisters).

Pop/Contemporary Gospel Album: "A Deeper Level," Israel and New Breed.

Traditional Gospel Album: "Live — One Last Time," The Clark Sisters.

Contemporary R&B Gospel Album: "Free to Worship," Fred Hammond.

Song Written for Motion Picture, Television or Other Visual Media: "Love You I Do (From Dreamgirls)," Siedah Garrett & Henry Krieger, songwriters (Jennifer Hudson).

Musical Show Album: "Spring Awakening," Duncan Sheik, producer; Duncan Sheik, composer; Steven Sater, lyricist (Original Broadway Cast With Jonathan Groff, Lea Michele & Others).

Spoken Word: "The Audacity of Hope: Thoughts on Reclaiming the American Dream," Barack Obama.

Instrumental Arrangement Accompanying Vocalist(s): "I'm Gonna Live Till I Die," John Clayton, arranger (Queen Latifah).

Remixed Recording, Non-Classical: "Bring the Noise (Benny Benassi Sfaction Remix)," Benny Benassi, remixer (Public Enemy).

Boxed or Special Limited Edition Package: "What It Is!: Funky Soul and Rare Grooves (1967-1977)," Masaki Koike, art director.

multiple postoperative factors shortly after having plastic surgery.

British singer Amy Winehouse on Sunday night won five of the six Grammy Awards for which she was nominated in Los Angeles.

Winehouse grabbed the trophies for Best New Artist, Song of the Year and Record of the Year for "Rehab." Prior to the telecast, she won for Best Female Pop Vocal Performance for "Rehab" and Best Pop Vocal Album for "Back to Black."

Winehouse has been in rehab since last month and didn't get her visa to attend the 50th Grammy Awards telecast in time to make travel plans. She performed and accepted an award live

by satellite from Riverside Studios in London — where she took the stage wearing a black mini-dress, heels and her signature brunette beehive, adorned with flowers for the occasion and sang "You Know I'm No Good" and "Rehab." Through it all, she smiled, danced and seemed focused on her performance. Afterward, she received a standing ovation from the crowd in the studio.

Upon hearing she won the Record of the Year award shortly after her set, Winehouse said: "Thank you to everyone at Island Records... To my mom and dad. For my [husband] Blake. My Blake incarcerated. And for London. This is for London!"

Grammys for Best Rap Solo Performance for "Stronger" from his "Graduation" CD; Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group for "Southside," his duet with Common; and Best Rap Song for "Good Life," which he shared with Aldrin Davis, Mike Dean, Faheem Najm, James Ingram and Quincy Jones.

West's mother died in November of a pre-existing coronary artery disease and

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