Respect
Soul Music

- Umbrella term for black popular music
  - Black music for black people
- Merges R&B and gospel music
- Becomes source of pride for African Americans
- Emotional delivery of gospel music
Soul and Black Consciousness

- 1964: Civil Rights Act
- 1965: Voting Rights Act
- 1968: Martin Luther King, Jr. assassinated
  - Memphis, TN
- Black pride, marker of identity
- Vehicle for social commentary
  - “What’s Goin On” - Marvin Gaye
  - “Say it Loud I’m Black and I’m Proud” - James Brown
  - “A Change is Gonna Come” - Sam Cooke
Ray Charles

- Blues and gospel synthesis
- “I Got a Woman” – 1958
  - Gospel influence
  - Blues elements
  - Ad-lib secular words to gospel songs
    - “I’ve Got a Savior”
Sam Cooke

- Model for gospel to cross over
- “A Change is Gonna Come” - 1964
  - Active in Civil Rights Movement
  - First person testimony
- Smooth, effortless delivery
- Orchestral strings

“His voice was perfection” - Jerry Wexler
Otis Redding

- Influenced by Little Richard and Sam Cooke

- “Try a Little Tenderness”-1966
  - “Otis makes you wait”
James Brown

- “Godfather of Soul”
  - Legendary showmanship
  - Elaborate sequences

- “Papa’s Got a Brand New Bag/I Feel Good” - 1964/65
  - Focus on performance experience
  - Rhythm > melody/harmony
  - Simple, repetitive, syncopated
  - Shouts, screams, grunts, shrieks
Aretha Franklin

- “Lady Soul”
  - Gospel choir background

- “Natural Woman”-1968
  - Vocal control
  - Melodic and rhythmic nuances
  - Amazing range, emotional expression
  - Easy crossover to White America
White Rabbit
Counterculture

- San Francisco Bay area: home of counterculture
- Rejection of “the establishment”
  - Resist norms of older generation
- Young people incited big social revolution
Vietnam War

- Vietnam divided North vs. South
  - North: USSR and communist China
  - South: Anti-communist nations and U.S.
- 1965: US sends regular troops to Vietnam to aid special forces
- Hostile reaction, especially those eligible to be drafted
  - Many saw war as pointless
  - Antiwar demonstrations
Jefferson Airplane

- Grace Slick: lead singer
  - Former model, extroverted, stage presence

- “White Rabbit” - 1967
  - Alice in Wonderland reference
  - Slick makes statement to parents
  - Acid trip inspiration
  - Slow, steady crescendo
  - “Feed your head”
Grace Slick
Janis Joplin

- Commanding presence
- Influence of blues and soul: Bessie Smith and Otis Redding
- Raw sound
  - "voice sounds like she gargled with glass"
- Died of heroin overdose
- “Ball and Chain”- 1967
  - Written by Big Mama Thornton