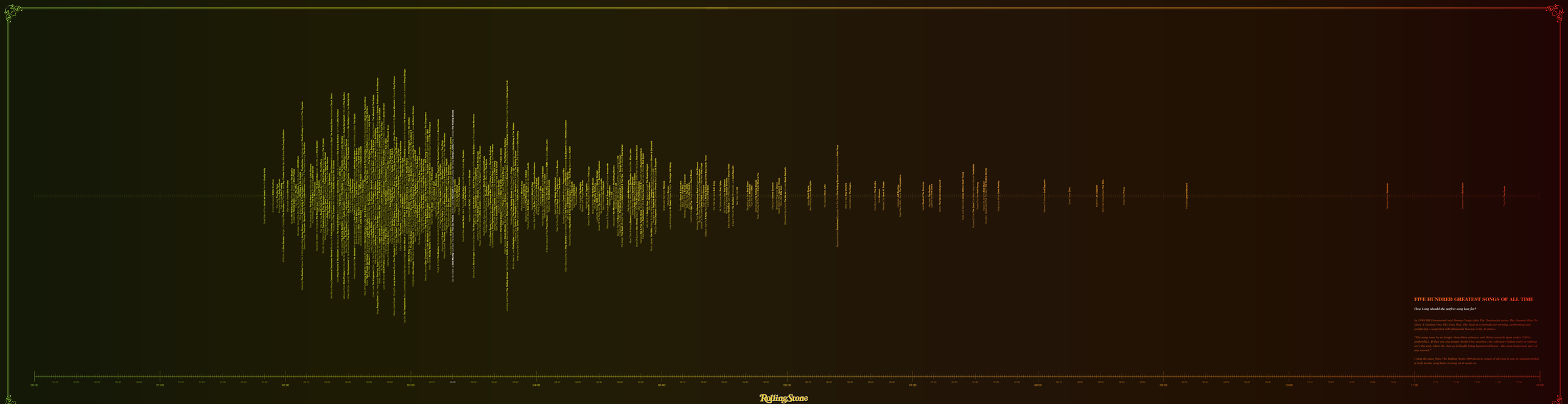
FIVE HUNDRED GREATEST SONGS OF ALL TIME
How Long should the perfect song last for?
In 1969 Bill Drummond and Jimmy Cauty (aka The Timelords) wrote The Manual: How To Have A Number One The Easy Way. The book is a formula for writing, performing and producing a song that will ultimately become a hit. It states;
"The song must be no longer than three minutes and thirty seconds (just under 3.70 in preferable). If they are any longer Radio One daytime DJs will start fading early or talking over the end, when the chorus is finally being hammered home - the most important part of any record."
Using the data from The Rolling Stone 500 greatest songs of all time it can be suggested that a truly iconic song lasts as long as it needs to.
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