



SWEETSOULMUSIC
Revue

www.sweetsoulmusicrevue.com

The Showbook

SWEET SOUL MUSIC REVUE

A Change Is Gonna Come

It is August 1955 in Mississippi and a 14-year-old African American, Emmet Louis Till, is being dragged out of his bed by white men. They brutally torture and then drown the boy, because Emmet had whistled at the white village beauty queen and called *Bye, bye babe* after her. The court acquits the murderers.

On December 1, 1955, Rosa Parks, an elderly African American lady, refuses to give up her seat on a bus to a white man. She is arrested and taken to court for violating segregation laws. These events in 1955 mark the beginning of the African American Civil Rights Movement, which will grow into a proud political force under the leadership of Dr. Martin Luther King. By 1968 it will have put an end to arbitrary injustice caused by racial segregation in the U.S.

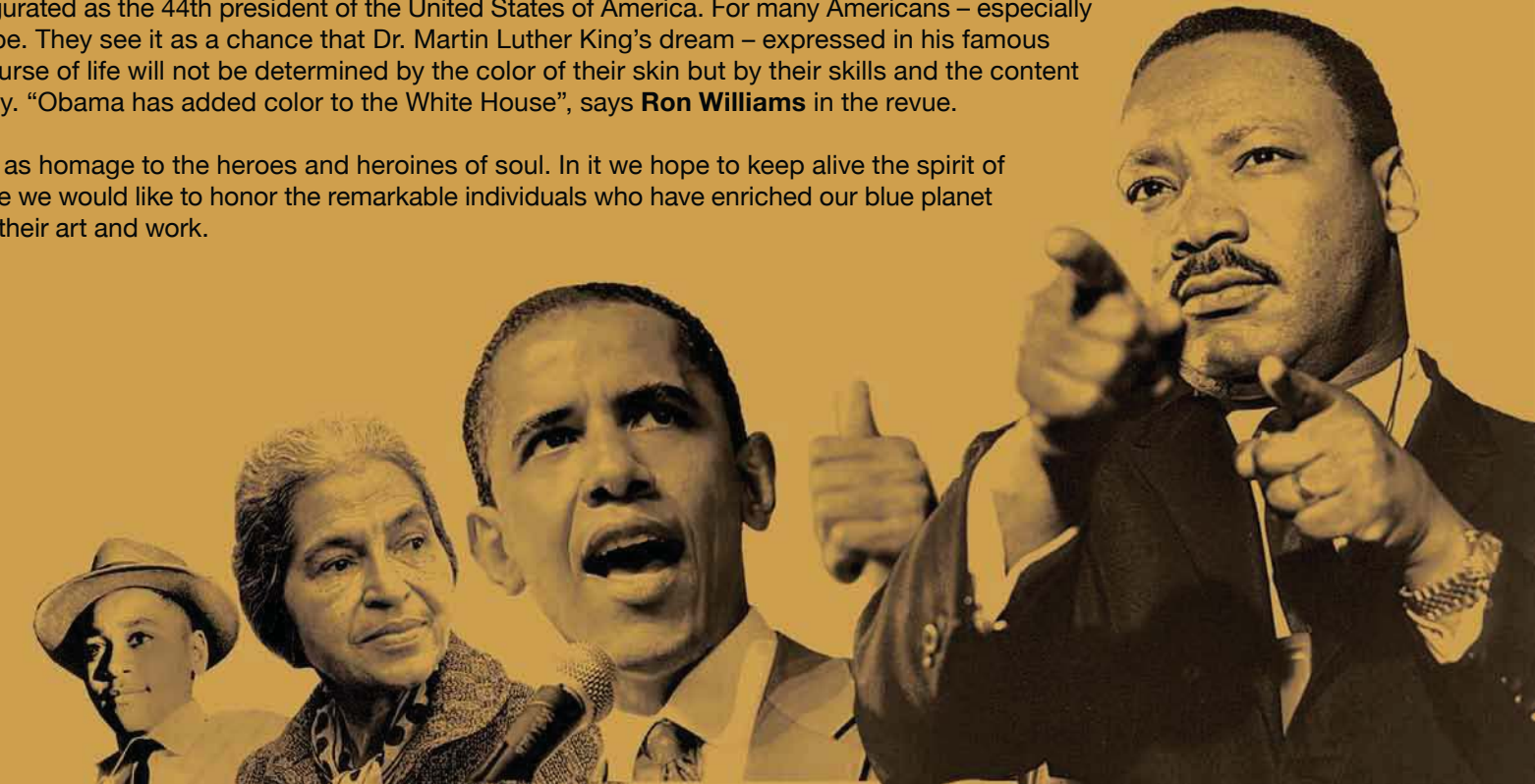
There have been times that I thought I couldn't last for long / But now I think I'm able to carry on / It's been a long time coming, but I know a change is gonna come – This soul anthem, composed by **Sam Cooke** in 1963, speaks of the hope for change during these times. Sam himself had been arrested for offences against the laws relating to civil disorders and rioting, because he and his band had tried to check in to a “whites only” motel.

Closely linked to the Civil Rights Movement, soul music delivers the soundtrack for this period of political change and upheaval in the United States. *Sweet Soul Music* expresses the new sense of black confidence more than any other art form in Afro-American culture. Its success strengthens black people's sense of self-worth and belief in their own abilities. The gift that these former slaves give to the world is their art, instilling in us a love for music born of true feeling – deep feeling from the heart and soul. As **The Chambers Brothers** say, *Soul is the longing for love, peace and happiness, poured into music*.

As well as “*Black Pride*”, the emergence of soul demonstrates that African Americans are in fact an economic power to be reckoned with. Both these elements fuel the process of empowerment – trust in one's strength, and trust in the strength of the black community in the US.

On January 20, 2009, Barack Obama is inaugurated as the 44th president of the United States of America. For many Americans – especially African Americans – this election signals hope. They see it as a chance that Dr. Martin Luther King's dream – expressed in his famous speech ‘*I have a dream*’ – that a person's course of life will not be determined by the color of their skin but by their skills and the content of their character, can finally become a reality. “Obama has added color to the White House”, says **Ron Williams** in the revue.

The **Sweet Soul Music Revue** is conceived as homage to the heroes and heroines of soul. In it we hope to keep alive the spirit of these pioneering ‘*Soul People*’. With our revue we would like to honor the remarkable individuals who have enriched our blue planet and made it so much more beautiful through their art and work.





RON WILLIAMS

"He is my role model – my idol!" says **Ron Williams**. The Munich-based entertainer has immersed himself in the art of the grandmaster of soul more than anybody else.

The **Sweet Soul Music Revue** is particularly proud to present **Ron Williams – The Spirit of Ray Charles**. Made famous by his TV-appearances, the star was fascinated by the concept, the artists and the music of the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**. Notwithstanding his many obligations (for example in the new production *Finally Free! – The Nelson Mandela Story*), he embraced the opportunity to be part of the **Sweet Soul Music Revue** as host and singer. His dearest wish was to perform the **Ray Charles** songs in the revue himself.

Let's not forget that he has been portraying the soul legend since 2005, in the musical *Ray Charles – The Genius of Soul*. In the **Sweet Soul Music Revue** he will sing *Georgia, Unchain My Heart*, and of course the Ray Charles megahit *What'd I Say*.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Ray, Universal [movie]

Mike Evans: Ray Charles – Die Geburt des Soul. Berlin: Bosworth Musikverlag [paperback]

Ray Charles, David Ritz: Ray Charles – What I Say – Der Hohepriester des Soul. Wien: Hannibal Verlag [paperback]

Ray Charles, David Ritz: Ray. Die Autobiographie. München: Wilhelm Heyne Verlag [paperback]

Ray Charles – Genius – The Ultimate Collection [CD]

Ray Charles - Rare Genius [CD]

RAY CHARLES

THE GENIUS OF SOUL

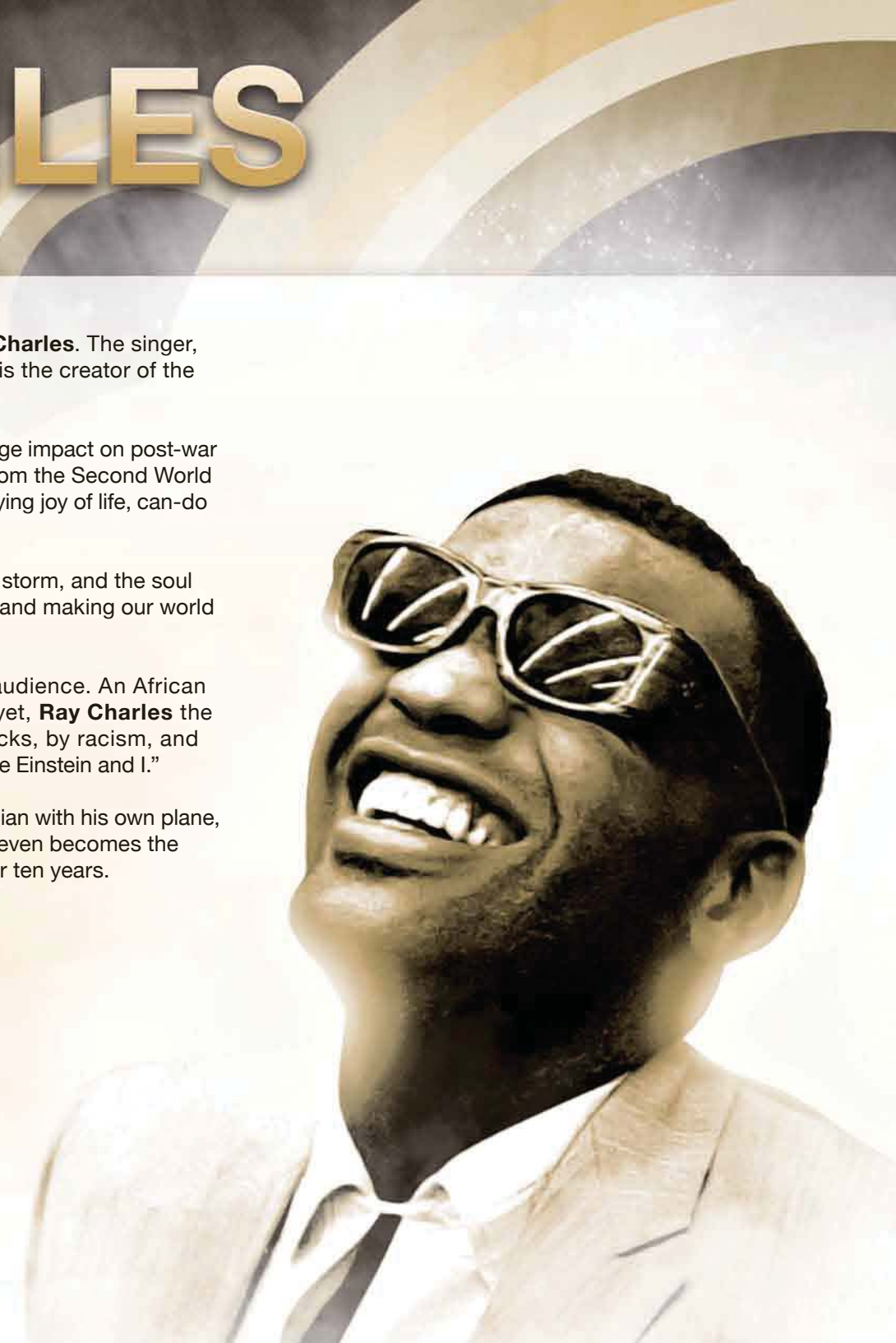
The story of soul music begins with Ray Charles Robinson, better known as **Ray Charles**. The singer, pianist and composer from Georgia sets the soul train off on its long journey, and is the creator of the magic formula: gospel + blues = soul!

I Got A Woman is the first title to be created according to this formula, and it has a huge impact on post-war US culture, hitting like a musical bomb. African American soldiers returning home from the Second World War find that the music perfectly expresses their newly developed confidence, conveying joy of life, can-do attitude, pride and dignity. Music becomes a weapon against racism.

An extraordinary success story unfolds. African American music takes the world by storm, and the soul hurricane sweeps away the stifling spirit of the times – shaking up white music fans and making our world sound different.

The release of the movie *Ray* introduced the soul icon's story to a huge global audience. An African American boy born into poverty; a heroin addict for almost two decades – and yet, **Ray Charles** the artist refuses to be categorized. He remains undefeated by countless knock-backs, by racism, and by controversies. According to his own analysis, "Art Tatum was a genius, and so were Einstein and I."

Ray Charles dies in 2004 – already a legend in the music business, millionaire, musician with his own plane, successful music publisher and owner of two record companies. His song *Georgia* even becomes the anthem of his home state, even though he had not been allowed to perform there for ten years.



SWEETSOULMUSIC
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RON WILLIAMS
WALDO WEATHERS
ALEX HUTSON
DERRICK ALEXANDER

STEVIE WOODS



Stevie Woods imbibes soul from earliest infancy. Both his parents are musicians – his mother an opera and jazz singer, his father **Rusty Bryant** a famous saxophone player. No wonder Stevie hits the stage early in life. Soon, he opens shows for **Nathalie Cole**, **The Isley Brothers** and even **Stevie Wonder**.

The 1980s are golden years for the R&B artist. The famous hit-producer Jack White is looking for a new voice, and he discovers **Stevie Woods**. Songs like *Take Me To Your Heaven*, *The Woman In My Life*, *Attitude* and *Rock Me Baby* hit the charts in the USA, the UK and Germany.

After some time as a pop artist, Stevie returns to his mother's musical heritage and begins a second career as a musical singer. For four years he is the voice of the old steam train *Poppa* in *Starlight Express*. **Stevie Woods** also sings *Mr. Prospero* in the musical *Shakespeare & Rock 'n' Roll*, and the voice of the plant in the *Little Shop of Horrors*.

Like a diamond, Stevie shines in several dimensions. He sings *Winter Wonderland* on the Christmas album of Germany's top jazz trumpeter **Till Brönner**. He also performs at **Quincy Jones'** 75th birthday concert at the Montreux Jazz Festival. And amazing entertainer that he is, he is still touring with **Udo Jürgens** – the legendary winner of the 1966 Eurovision Song Contest.

The **Sweet Soul Music Revue** is proud and happy to present **Stevie Woods** with the **Marvin Gaye** songs *Ain't That Peculiar*, *Mercy Me* and *What's Going On*.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

I Heard It Through The Grapevine. 1968, Tamla Records [album]

What's Going On. 1971, Tamla Records [album]

Midnight Love. 1982, Columbia Records [album]

Marvin Gaye: Live in Montreux 1980 [DVD]

MARVIN GAYE

WHAT'S GOING ON

As the son of a minister in Detroit City, Marvin grows up with the sound of gospel in his soul – how could it be otherwise. He learns to play the piano and guitar at school. In his twenties he is a member of **The Marquees**, a band working with blues legends such as **Bo Diddley**, **Etta James** and **Chuck Berry**. His professional career, however, begins when he becomes the drummer in **Smokey Robinson & The Miracles** – Motown Records' house band. You can hear him playing the drums in Motown-Hits such as *Please Mr. Postman* or *Dancing In The Street*.

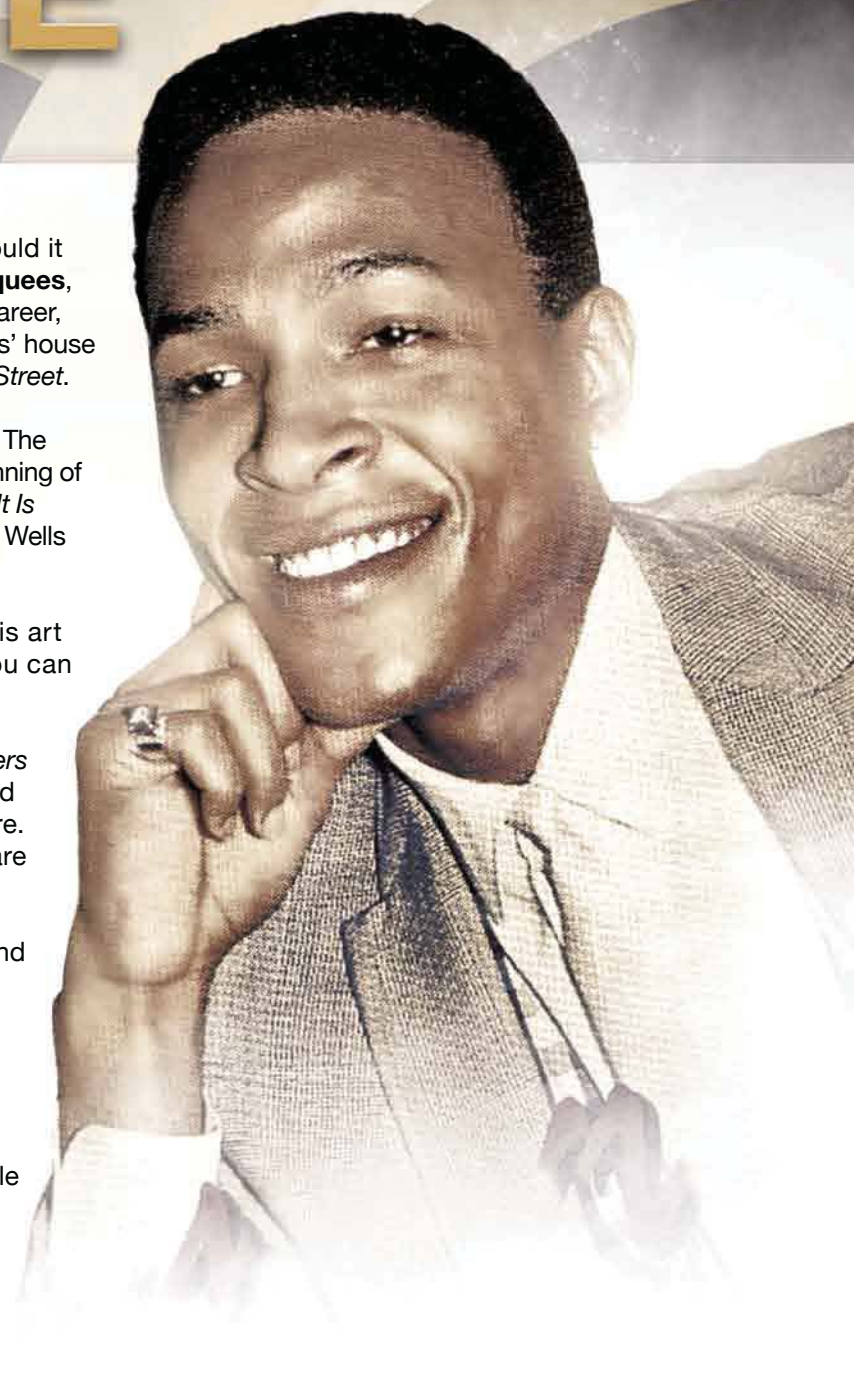
In 1961 **Marvin Gaye** marries Berry Gordy's sister – Berry Gordy, the all-mighty boss of the record company. The brother-in-law discovers Marvin's smooth, powerful voice. Motown offers the singer a solo contract: the beginning of another legendary soul story. Later, **Marvin Gaye** will be crowned *Prince of Soul* for his solo hits *How Sweet It Is (To Be Loved By You)*, *Ain't That Peculiar*, *I Heard It Through The Grapevine* and his amazing duets with Mary Wells and Tammi Terrell – of course!

Marvin Gaye has a huge influence on the development of music during the next three decades. His art brings together the different facets of great black music: gospel (naturally!), blues and soul. But you can also hear elements of jazz, pop and funk in this outstanding musician's output.

In 2008 the American music magazine *Rolling Stone* ranks Gaye at number six on its list of the *Greatest Singers Of All Times*. The reason for this success is his voice, which has a range of more than three octaves, and also his creative fearlessness. **Marvin Gaye** contributes a huge number of diamonds to the soul treasure. Superstars like **The Commodores**, **Curtis Mayfield** and even **Stevie Wonder** and **Michael Jackson** are influenced by him.

Marvin brings a special kind of class to the commercialized Motown sound. He includes jazzy groove and even classical elements in his compositions. More importantly, Gaye kills the doo wop-tradition in *Sweet Soul Music* by writing lyrics full of criticism and thoughtfulness. His album *What's Going On* is a turning point in the history of soul. A serious artist with a social message, he opens up new dimensions for other soul musicians.

Marvin Gaye, a star and hero of soul history, makes millions of fans happy. But his private life ends in tragedy. In 1984 he is shot dead by his own father in an argument which spirals out of control. Even while battling drug addictions, financial troubles and deep depression from the 1970s onwards, his music continues to live on and inspire.



JIMMY JAMES



Jimmy James is the “Grand Seigneur” of the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**. The U.S. army brings him to Heidelberg in 1962, where he meets **Klaus Gassmann**.

The legendary **Wilson Pickett** concert in the Frankfurter Jahrhunderthalle in February 1968 ignites the spark. Gassman is infected with the *soul virus* and knows that there is nothing else for him – he has to make soul music, and it has to be with **Jimmy James**.

From this moment onwards, the two dedicate themselves to *Sweet Soul Music*, initially with **Back On Stage** and later with **Soulfinger**. Even after decades, **Jimmy James** has lost none of his expressiveness, on the contrary. The “soul brother no. 1” (as **Ron Williams** calls him in reference to **James Brown**) came to soul through gospel and was strongly influenced by **Sam Cooke**. Whether singing the songs of **James Brown** or **Otis Redding**, **Jimmy James** always produces authentic “old school” soul.

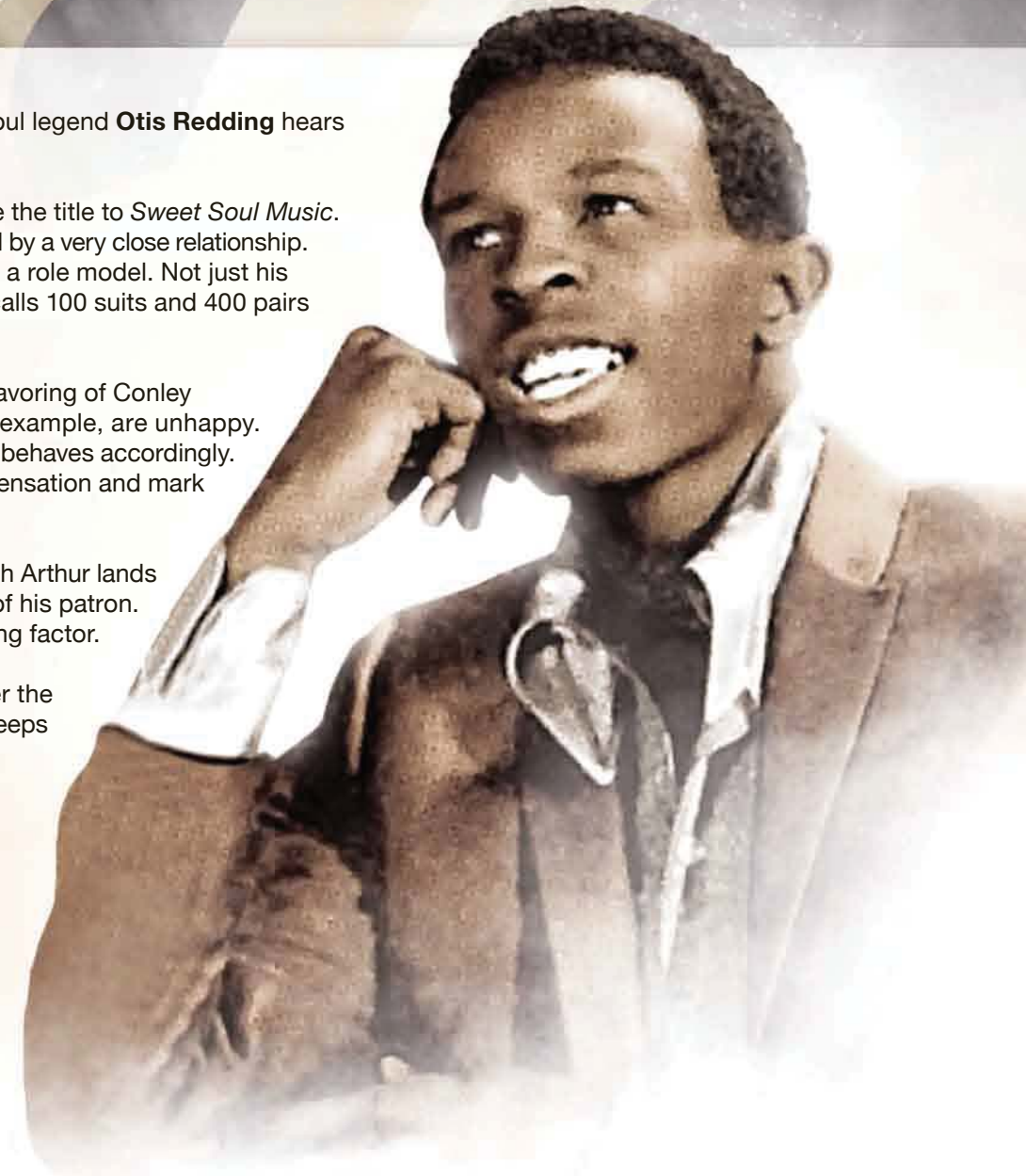
In the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**, **Jimmy James** presents *Sweet Soul Music* (**Arthur Conley**), *If You Don't Know Me By Now* (**Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes**), *It's A Man's World* and *I Feel Good* (**James Brown**) and *Ain't Too Proud To Beg* (**The Temptations**) as a soloist. He is also one of the artists performing **The Four Tops** and **The Temptations** medleys.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Arthur Conley & The Sweaters: Recorded Live in Amsterdam. A Tribute To His Soul Brothers [CD and DVD]
Arthur Conley: Sweet Soul Music. Atlantic Records. [CD]

ARTHUR CONLEY

SWEET SOUL MUSIC



Already as a teenager **Arthur Conley** sings in the clubs of Georgia. One evening, soul legend **Otis Redding** hears him in a bar in Baltimore and signs him on the spot.

Together they re-write **Sam Cooke**'s not so well-known song *Yeah Man* and change the title to *Sweet Soul Music*. In 1967 it becomes one of the biggest soul hits ever. From the start, these two are bound by a very close relationship. Otis sees in the younger Conley a kind of musical son, and Conley worships Otis as a role model. Not just his charisma and his musical talent impress him, but also his lifestyle – **Otis Redding** calls 100 suits and 400 pairs of shoes his own.

During Stax's first concert in Europe, conflicts erupt over Otis Redding's apparent favoring of Conley (on posters, for example). Stax's other soul stars, **Sam & Dave** and **Booker T**, for example, are unhappy. **Otis Redding**'s overwhelming success in Europe makes him an instant star – and he behaves accordingly. **Arthur Conley** is the crown prince in his entourage. The concerts in England are a sensation and mark the beginning of the special European love for soul music.

Unfortunately, **Otis Redding** dies in a plane crash shortly afterwards, and even though Arthur lands another big hit with *Funky Street*, his career does not really take off after the death of his patron. Most likely the envy and jealousy caused by **Otis Redding**'s favoring is a contributing factor.

Conley continues to sing in revival shows. In 1988 he reappears in Amsterdam under the name of **Lee Roberts**, attempting a musical comeback. Although unsuccessful, he keeps performing in oldie shows, and runs an independent label until his death in 2003.





HARRIET LEWIS

This Philadelphia-born singer stems from a great soul tradition. At 12 years of age she is already a soloist in her Baptist community gospel choir. Together with her mother she founds and leads a youth gospel choir, and gains an education in “Great American Music” and dance. She wins several talent contests on the East Coast.

Studio recordings with artist such as **Patty Labelle**, **Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes** and **The Four Tops** follow. In 1980 **Harriet Lewis** joins the U.S. Army and teaches singing and dance at the well-known West Point Military Academy. Afterwards she tours around the globe as a music ambassador and performs with stars **Charlie Byrd** and **George Benson**, among others.

Since then, Harriet (who now calls Stuttgart her home) has released 14 CDs, and, in 1995, received the German “Rock and Musician Association” award for best singer. She shared the stage with many of the very greatest: **Eric Clapton**, **Joe Cocker**, **Maria Carey**, **Ray Charles**, **Grace Jones**, **B. B. King**, **Michael Jackson** and more.

In the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**, **Harriet Lewis** performs the following titles: *A Change Is Gonna Come* (**Sam Cooke**), *Midnight Train To Georgia* (**Gladys Knight & The Pips**), *It's A Man's World* (**James Brown**) and *Tell Mama* and *At Last* (**Etta James**).

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Etta James, David Ritz: *Rage to Survive: The Etta James Story*. DaCapo Press [paperback]

Etta James: *Live at Montreux 1991* [DVD]

Etta James: *Her Best – The Chess 50th Anniversary Collection* [CD]

Etta James: *Let's Roll* [CD] (Grammy 2004 for the Best Contemporary Blues Album)

Cadillac Records [movie]

ETTA JAMES

TELL MAMA

“*Etta James's gift to soul was sex!*” – headlines *Die Welt* newspaper on her 70th birthday. Unlike the other ladies of soul, Jamesetta Hawkins (her real name) introduced the ‘facts of life’ to soul. Etta stands on the blues side of *Sweet Soul Music*.

She receives professional lessons in gospel music at the age of five and forms her first band **The Creolettes** at 14. Johnny Otis discovers the singer and has her signed by the blues label Chess Records. Her first solo single (chorus: *Roll with me Henry!*) kicks off a discussion about obscenity in music. An image which Etta never quite manages to shake.

Chess Records tries to pitch the blues singer as **Aretha Franklin's** rival, but Etta's ribald “slanguage”, her rather unladylike way of carrying herself, and her bluesy lifestyle scare off the white middle classes. Aretha is crowned “Queen of Soul”.

In his book *Blues Odyssey* **Bill Wyman** sums up her situation: “*If blues is about love and loss, Etta wrote the soundtrack*”. Certainly, she never really manages to get rid of the blues in her life, which is full of ups and downs. Between 1960 and 1967 she lands numerous hits, amongst them the outstanding *At Last* and *Tell Mama*.

Her heroin addiction stands in the way of a big breakthrough, but in 1974 “Peaches” (as she is called for her looks) goes into rehab, gets active in the ‘Release Movement’, and manages a defiant comeback. Etta gives blues back its soul; or soul its blues. “*I felt like spit out sugar on the ground*” she reflects on her worst times. She creates her most mature works, such as *Deep In The Night* or *Seven Year Itch*. And finally the longed-for and well-earned recognition arrives: Hall of Fame, Grammy, Living Blues Award, engagements at the Montreux Jazz Festival and as supporting act for the **Rolling Stones**.

In an interview, she acknowledged that, “*it was the white boys in the cultural scene that had been listening to my songs playing in the jukebox when they were little boys who have helped me*”. And indeed Steven Spielberg used her song “*Wallflower*” in his movie “*Back To The Future*”. She also landed some leading acting roles, as for example in “*Bad Influence*”, “*Heartbreakers*” and the TV series “*Insiders*” and she paid great tribute to her idol **Billie Holiday** with her album “*Mystery Lady*”. **Etta James** was diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and leukemia and died on January 20, 2012 in Riverside, California at the age of 73.



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HARRIET LEWIS

DANIEL STOYANOV



Only You – every time **Daniel Stoyanov** sings this 1955 classic by **The Platters** in the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**, a collective sigh fills the venue.

Daniel Stoyanov is born in Bulgaria into a family of artists, but immigrates to Germany with his parents when he is four years old.

The charismatic young man discovers his love for music at a young age. He makes his first experiences in a recording studio at age 11, starts writing his own lyrics at around the same time, and appears on the MTV show *Kitchen* as a 13-year-old. A natural talent, he interprets his songs with a unique and stunning soul-voice. He is a man of initiative, simply showing up at the door of the Naidoo-Herberger Productions **Söhne Mannheims**, where he finds a positive reception and subsequent support. Daniel continues to perform with **Xavier Naidoo**, and, in 2008, finally releases his first album *Draußen vor der Tür*.

Klaus Gassmann discovered Daniel in 2006, and he has since been a member of the **Sweet Soul Music Revue** ensemble.

Only You, The Great Pretender, Smoke Gets In Your Eyes – **The Platters** medley is Daniel Stoyanov's big solo performance in the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**. He also sings *Soothe Me, Hold On I'm Coming* and *I Take What I Want* by **Sam & Dave** with **Alexander Hutson**. With **Harriet Lewis** he opens the 2nd set with *A Change Is Gonna Come* (**Sam Cooke**) and in the medleys he performs *Reach Out I'll Be There* (**The Four Tops**) and the solo part in *My Girl* (**The Temptations**).

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Daniel Wolff: *You Send Me. The Life and Times of Sam Cooke*. Morrow [paperback]

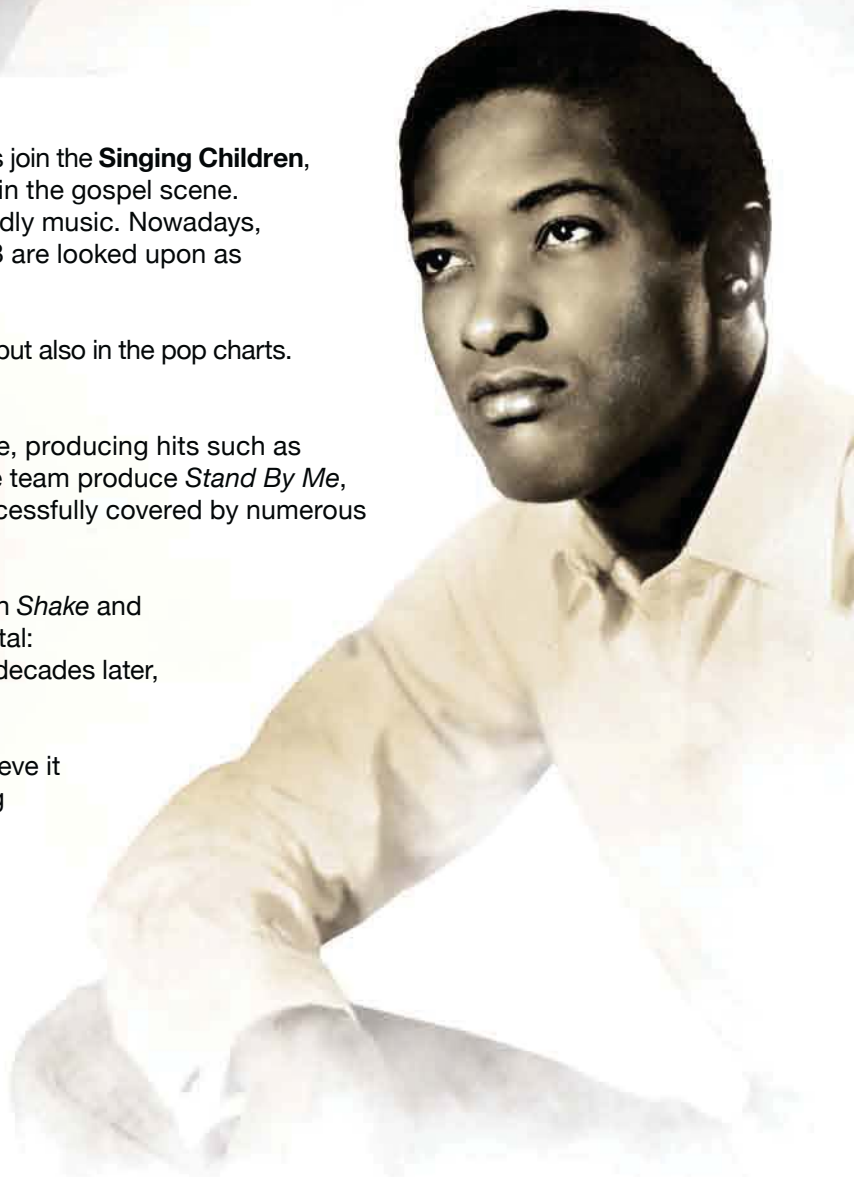
Peter Guralnick: *Sweet Soul Music*. Bosworth Music [paperback]

Sam Cooke: *Twistin' The Night Away*. 1962 [album]

Sam Cooke: *Live at the Harlem Square Club 1963* [album]

SAM COOKE

MR. SOUL



Sam Cooke was the first well-known gospel artist to make it in the white music business. He and his siblings join the **Singing Children**, where his charm and charisma, along with his extraordinary, breathtaking voice, soon make him a star in the gospel scene. Under the influence of **J. W. Alexander**, the 'Godfather of Soul', he makes the leap into a career in worldly music. Nowadays, one can hardly imagine what a step like that would have meant. Blues, pop and the newly evolving R&B are looked upon as 'the devil's music', especially in black church communities.

The release of his single *You Send Me* marks his breakthrough, going straight to no. 1 – not only in the R&B, but also in the pop charts. Sam is a womanizer, loved by African American girls and white women alike. .

Cooke develops his style to perfection and, as a result, becomes one of the greatest singers of all time, producing hits such as *Only Sixteen* and *Wonderful World*. The partnership with Alexander also brings economic success. The team produce *Stand By Me*, which, sung by **Ben E. King**, becomes a worldwide hit, and *It's All Over Now*, which goes on to be successfully covered by numerous rock bands, from **Van Morrison** to the **Rolling Stones**.

Sam is a song-writing machine. All in all, he composes more than 150 songs, among them the well-known *Shake and Bring It Home To Me*. However, it is not until 1964 that Cooke releases a track which will make him immortal: *A Change Is Gonna Come*. Censored at first, it is later released as b-side and remains an insider tip. But decades later, after his death, it becomes the anthem of the new America.

On December 11, 1964, **Sam Cooke** is shot by the owner of a motel. Many in the black community believe it to be an act of conspiracy, whereas the gospel community sees it as God's punishment. A gospel song by **Angelo Bond** hints at Sam's fate: "*He gained the world, but lost his soul*".

200,000 fans attend his funeral and none other than **Ray Charles** sings the gospel song *Angels Keep Watching Over Me* at his open grave. There is not a single soul singer of importance that hasn't been influenced by Cooke: **Solomon Burke, Aretha Franklin, Otis Redding, Gladys Knight** and even **James Brown**.

SWEETSOULMUSIC
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DANIEL STOYANOV
HARRIET LEWIS

LERATO SEBELE



No, it can't be **Aretha Franklin**, for Aretha does not tour outside the U.S.A. and she also belongs to another generation. This outstanding singer in the **Sweet Soul Music Revue** – Aretha's vocal twin – is known by the name of **Lerato Sebele**.

"All I'm asking for is a little r e s p e c t!" – When **Lerato Sebele** belts out this soul classic, it gives every true soul music fan goose bumps; and when she performs her solo *Think*, everyone could swear that it is Aretha in person who is reading poor **Alexander Hutson** the riot act.

No one is better cast as the "Queen of Soul" in the revue than Lerato with her big Afro, her gesturing and most of all her amazing voice. Like her other role model **Miriam Makeba**, Sebele comes from Johannesburg, South Africa. She was part of Hamburg's musical scene before being recruited for the revue by **Klaus Gassmann**. She confesses, *"Soul is my secret love!"*

In addition to her solos *Respect*, *Think* and *Dr. Feelgood* by **Aretha Franklin**, **Lerato Sebele** performs in *Dancing In The Street* by **Martha & the Vandellas**.

In most soul classics, the soloist's voice is supported by a wonderful cast of background singers. In the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**, our congenial background singers Kirsten Schad, Sabine Krawczyk und Susanne Kohl – known as the **Soul Sisters** – elegantly follow in the footsteps of the **The Raelettes**, **The Supremes** or **The Ikettes**. Outside our revue, they provide a classy background tone for the legendary band **Soulfinger**.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Aretha Franklin: Queen of soul. BBC, 03.23.2004

Think in the movie *The Blues Brothers*

Aretha Franklin: Aretha Live At Fillmore West. Atlantic (1971) [CD]

ARETHA FRANKLIN

QUEEN OF SOUL

To this day, Aretha reigns as Queen of Soul!

Even at almost 70 years old, this grande dame's phenomenal voice fascinates millions of people – for example at President Barack Obama's inauguration. She has been a professional musician since she was 14 years old. At first in her father's gospel choir, who in his time was a gospel star as well as a preacher, releasing more than 60 LPs. **Mahalia Jackson** and **Sam Cooke** regularly attend his sermons, as does, later on, **Whitney Houston**. After all, Aretha is her godmother.

In the early 1960s she releases her first Rhythm & Blues record and is celebrated as a new **Billie Holiday**. However, the label doesn't allow her to make her own music, so in 1967 she moves to Atlantic Records, where she is able to make the most of her voice. It is here that she releases *I Never Loved A Man*, which will become her first hit.

Her mix of intense blues piano, divine gospel voice and worldly topics has the same aural effect as a beacon of light. Aretha becomes the voice of the African American Civil Rights Movement and repeatedly supports Dr. Martin Luther King during his public appearances. Her **Otis Redding** cover *Respect* finally secures her the title of "Queen of Soul". Unforgettable also her jewel-like songs *Think*, *Spanish Harlem*, *Chain Of Fools* and *Dr. Feelgood*. In 1987 she is accepted into the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame as the first woman ever. She has received 20 Grammy Awards to date.



SWEETSOULMUSIC
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LERATO SEBELE
ALEX HUTSON

SAM & DAVE

DOUBLE DYNAMITE

Alligator shoes, perfectly fitting suits, sunglasses – dressed up and cool! **Sam & Dave**'s outfits create a completely new style for a whole generation of Afro-American musicians.

Their shows are hot though. A mix of ecstatic gospel and bluesy call and response, **Sam & Dave**'s show is “*one of the most meticulously planned attractions in pop music*”, according to the New York Times in 1968. The Billboard Magazine adds: “*with the precision of a military honor guard and the explosiveness of a controlled riot*”. Up to 35 musicians, dancers and technicians are part of their revue, and about 100 costumes are used. Their income of approximately \$1.5 million per year is mostly spent on a star-worthy lifestyle. In the 1960s, **Sam & Dave** are soul superstars.

Their hit *Soul Man* becomes **Sam & Dave**'s trademark. The song reflects the sense of a new departure for the African American community, and carries the newly-found feeling of black pride around the globe. Even in the burning ghettos of 1967, young people dance to this hymn by **Sam & Dave**. **Isaac Hayes** and **David Porter** play a major role in the duo's success: the two composers write their hits *Hold On I'm Coming*, *Soul Man*, *You Don't Know*, *Something Is Wrong With My Baby*, *Soothe Me*, *Soul Sister*, *Brown Sugar* and many more. **Booker-T. & the M.G.'s** and **The Memphis Horns** serve as backing bands, with Isaac Hayes on the piano.

In 1968 **Sam & Dave** move to Atlantic Records and lose this crucial support from the team at their old label, Stax. Their success fades, drugs and debts follow, and this in turn led to quarrels. The star ensemble parts company in 1970.

The movie *Blues Brothers* is inspired by the two soul legends and brings their songs to the attention of a younger white generation. For Sam Moore it brings a short comeback. With **Lou Reed** (!), he records the title song for the comedy *Soul Man* and then tours with **Bruce Springsteen** and **Z. Z. Top**, who turn his *I Thank You* into a bestselling single once more.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Peter Guralnick: Sweet Soul Music. Bosworth Music [paperback]

Klaus Walter, (15.10.2010). Zum 75. Geburtstag von Sam Moore. Radio Bayern

Siegfried Schmidt-Joos, Wolf Kampmann (Hrsg): Rock-Lexikon. Rowohlt [paperback]

The Best of Sam & Dave. Atlantic (1987) [CD]





WALDO WEATHERS

JB LEGEND



Having been a member of the legendary **James Brown Band** for 15 years, **Sir Waldo Weathers** is another guarantor for authenticity in the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**. As successor to **Pee Wee Ellis** and **Maceo Parker**, he serves the “Godfather of Soul” with his “Golden Horns” (tenor sax, baritone sax) and shares the stage with him until three days before **James Brown’s** death. Along with **Michael Jackson** and countless other stars, he takes part in the Farewell Soul Party for the titan of soul in Augusta.

Waldo is from Kentucky and enters the soul scene not through gospel, but via “Rhythm & Blues”. In Texas, he makes a name for himself as a country music saxophonist – country music being one of the biggest genres in the U.S., incorporating elements of soul and jazz. **Ray Charles** is another example of this close connection, having recorded a number of country titles. The Nashville Music Guide lists **Waldo Weathers** as best R&B saxophonist. He plays with **Dr. John**, **B.B. King**, **Jerry Lee Lewis**, **Little Richard** and **Bo Diddley** among many others.

As well as his saxophone solos in our **Sweet Soul Music Revue**, **Sir Waldo Weathers** will also sing *Shotgun (Jr. Walker)*, *Cold Sweat (James Brown)* and a part in **The Temptations** medley.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

James Brown: The Godfather of Soul – An Autobiography. DaCapo Press [paperback]

Geoff Brown: Let’s Get Personal – Die James Brown-Biografie. Bosworth Music [paperback]

James Brown: Live at the Apollo (1962) [CD]

James Brown – Godfather of Soul, A Portrait. Arthaus Musik [DVD]

The documentary “When We Were Kings” includes clips from a James Brown concert that took place in 1974 in Kinshasa, Zaire. It was organized in conjunction with the Muhammad Ali boxing match “Rumble in the Jungle”. (Leon Gast, the director, received an Oscar for best documentary in 1997)

JAMES BROWN

GODFATHER OF SOUL



“Papa’s Got A Brand New Bag!” – **James Brown!** The “soul brother no. 1” opens a completely new chapter in the history of soul. “Back to the roots – up in the future” one could say. Like no other artist before, James Josef Brown Jr. takes soul back to its African roots.

This opened up new possibilities for the art form, which are being explored to this day. **James Brown** lays the foundations for funk, rap, and the overwhelming commercial success of African American superstars today. **Michael Jackson** and **Prince** as well as **Miles Davis**, the god of jazz, all name **James Brown** as their inspiration.

“Classic soul” from **Ray Charles** through to **Sam Cooke** and **Otis Redding** to **Aretha Franklin** stands for the era of the Civil Rights Movement. **James Brown** is the sound of “black is beautiful”. “Say it loud - I’m black and I’m proud!” – he drums it into the African American youth’s consciousness. His song *Sex Machine* is a musical fuse, igniting the 1968 cultural revolutions in Europe. Soul for **James Brown** is rhythm, passion and show.

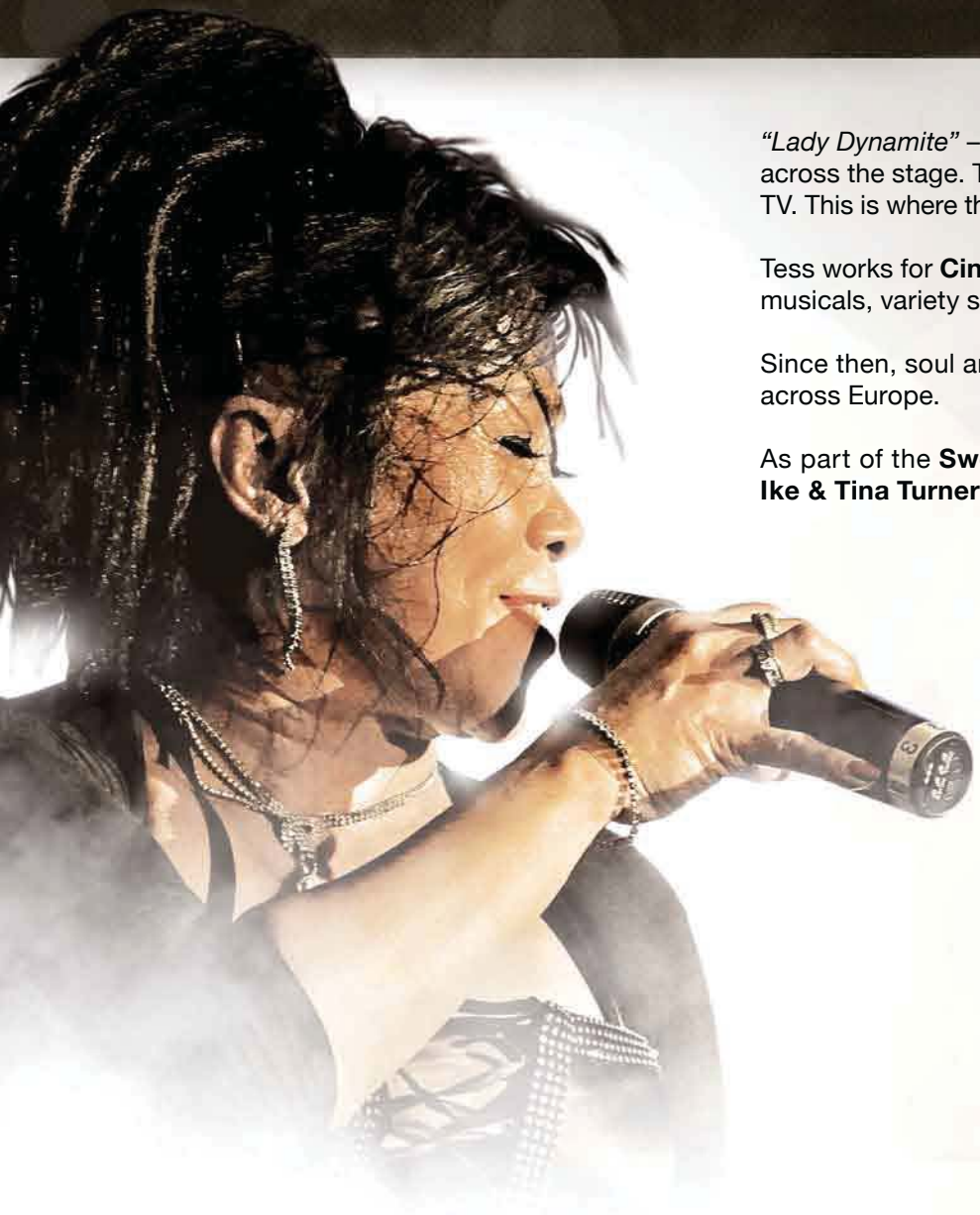
Notwithstanding the glamour and the scandals, **James Brown** is the self-proclaimed but rightful *Godfather of Soul*. Not just because he influenced and inspired countless musicians, including **Bootsy Collins**, **Pee Wee Ellis** and **Maceo Parker**. But mainly because he honestly and passionately campaigned for African Americans to be able to walk tall and proud. A large share of his 200 million fortune went to a foundation which provides music education to children living in ghettos.

SWEETSOULMUSIC
Revue



WALDO WEATHERS

MARITES DABASOL SMITH



“*Lady Dynamite*” – with her very own spirit and charm, **Sweet Soul Music Revue’s** own **Tina Turner** twirls across the stage. Tess, born in the Philippines, starts her career as a dancer and choreographer on Philippine TV. This is where this “little dancing typhoon” is discovered by **The Commodores** for their “*Nightshift-Asia-Tour*”.

Tess works for **Cindy Lauper** and **Kenny Loggins**, and subsequently tours throughout the U.S., starring in musicals, variety shows and as a dancer in Las Vegas.

Since then, soul and love have brought her to Germany. With her own Tina Turner Tribute Show she tours across Europe.

As part of the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**, Tess performs **Wilson Pickett’s** *Land Of 1,000 Dances* and **Ike & Tina Turner’s** hits: *Proud Mary*, *Nutbush City Limits* and naturally *River Deep Mountain High*.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Tina – What’s Love Got To Do With It? [movie]
Tina Turner, Kurt Loder: I, Tina: My Life. It Books [paperback]
Ike Turner, Nigel Cawthorne: Takin’ Back My Name. The Confessions of Ike Turner. Virgin Books [hardcover]
Mark Bego: Tina Turner – Die Biografie. Hannibal Verlag [hardcover]
Ike & Tina Turner: River Deep Mountain High [album]
Ike & Tina Turner: Workin’ Together [album]

IKE & TINA TURNER

RIVER DEEP MOUNTAIN HIGH

Everyone knows the story – and the dark side of showbiz which it reveals. Everyone knows and loves their songs. With **Ike & Tina**, *Sweet Soul Music* begins to develop into a modern show. Their music is the bridge from soul to rock – Ike’s 1951 solo single *Rocket 88* is regarded as one of the first rock & roll songs.

In 1960 **Ike & Tina** record their first song together, *A Fool In Love*, which is followed by *It’s Gonna Work Out Fine* and their first Grammy nomination. Their success with singles however is nothing compared to the triumphant success of their revue.

River Deep – Mountain High in 1966 marks the beginning of real fame. Some years later, the international significance of **Ike & Tina** is re-confirmed with *Proud Mary* and Tina’s autobiographical song *Nutbush City Limits*. The songs revolutionize rock music with their new recording technology, galvanizing R&B show and the emancipated role of the female singer.

Grammy Award, Hall of Fame, supporting act for the **Rolling Stones** Tour – these are just some of the highlights in their career as a duo. However, in 1976 Tina escapes her abusive husband after a show, files for divorce, waives her rights to any kind of alimony, and starts her solo career.

Anna Mae Bullock – also known as **Tina Turner** – has received eight Grammys as a solo artist so far and is at present considered to be the most successful female singer in the world.





ALEX HUTSON



When he claps his hands it sounds like the crack of a whip, and when he moves those long elegant legs one could think he was a solo dancer at the “Crazy Horse” in Paris. In other words, when **Alex “U-Jean” Hutson** steps on stage in the **Sweet Soul Music Revue** it is time for action and high spirits, so *Get Ready!* or rather *Have Mercy*.

This young soul star from Atlanta, Georgia, has been singing ever since he can remember. He came to Europe to be part of the United States Soldier Chorus, as well as an ambassador of American music, culture and professionalism in Europe. Having fallen in love with Europe and been discovered for the revue, he decided to leave the army and stay here to be part of the **Sweet Soul Music Revue**.

As well as working on the revue, **Alex “U-Jean” Hutson** is developing his career in soul, new style, R&B and dance, not only as a singer/songwriter, but also as a producer. With his song *Nothing Like This*, he won 2nd place in Europa Park’s “Welcome to Europe Song Contest” and is currently releasing his first song featuring Carl Prit. He featured on R.I.O’s hit singles *Turn This Club Around* and *Animal*, which have conquered the top ten in various European countries on the renowned Zooland label.

Alexander appears solo with *Unchained Melody* by **The Righteous Brothers**. Together with **Derrick Alexander** he slips into the role of **Sam & Dave** and performs the classics *It’s The Same Old Song* (**The Four Tops**), and *Get Ready!* (**The Temptations**), which let his soul timbre shine brightly. He also spreads great harmony and energy as a singer in the Motown songs of **Gladys Knight & The Pips**, **The Four Tops** and, of course, **The Temptations**.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Nelson George: *Where Did Our Love Go? – The Rise and Fall of the Motown Sound*. Omnibus Press [paperback]

John Fordham: *Jazz – Geschichte, Instrumente, Musiker, Aufnahmen*. Christian Verlag [hardcover]

The Four Tops: *The Four Tops Live!* (1966) [CD]

The Four Tops: *The Magnificent 7* (together with The Supremes) (1970) [CD]

The Four Tops: *Anthology – 50th Anniversary* (2004) [CD]

THE FOUR TOPS

IT’S THE SAME OLD SONG

Vocal groups, like **The Drifters**, **The Platters** or **The Golden Gate Quartet**, have a long tradition in U.S. entertainment culture. They reflect the immense importance of harmony, which American music inherited from its European ancestor.

The Four Tops have carried on this tradition for five decades, with an almost unchanged line-up. Schoolmates Levi Stubb, Lawrence Payton, Renaldo “Obi” Benson and Abdul “Duke” Fakir form the ensemble in 1953. For ten years, they accompany **Billy Eckstine** on his tours, and perform together with **Count Basie**.

Berry Gordy discovers their great potential for Motown. He has an interest in improving his acts’ class, trying to break into new markets and the ‘white’ music business. He signs **The Four Tops** to Motown in 1964. Motown’s own authors Holland, Dozier and Holland (HDH) write hit after hit for the quartet. Their special attraction lies in the divergence between the highly polished Motown sound on the one hand, and the ecstatic singing on the other, resulting in classics such as *I Need Your Loving*, *Sugar Pie Honey Bunch* or *Reach Out I’ll Be There*.

This special **Four Tops** sound changes when HDH leave Motown, becoming rather more concertante. While not able to live up to their earlier successes, they remain part of the black “Show-Establishment”. Their song *Are You Man Enough* is produced for the movie *Shaft*, they perform at Muhammad Ali’s Birthday party, the Kennedy-Gala, and they get their own show in Las Vegas. They also perform at the opening of Euro-Disneyland in Paris in 1992 and make it into the top ten in 1989 with *Loco in Acapulco*, written for the **Phil Collins** movie *Buster*. In 1990 they are finally accepted into the Hall of Fame. **Stevie Wonder** conducts the laudation.



GLADYS KNIGHT & THE PIPS

EMPRESS OF SOUL

The group **Gladys Knight & the Pips** mark the beginning of “*new soul*” after the classical, golden era of soul. Their careers lead the way – out of the Southern dives and into the Philharmonic halls. **Gladys Knight & the Pips** is a family business: Gladys, her older brother, her sister and two of her cousins. All of them received their vocal training in a Baptist gospel choir; Gladys since she was four.

At 12 years of age, this confident African American girl wins a singing competition in the South. A real sensation in the South in 1956. All the major newspapers in the North report the news.

Whistle My Heart is the quintet's first single, released in 1957. Later they will perform as **Gladys Knight & the Pips**. The band tour as a supporting act for **B.B. King** and **Sam Cooke**. With *Every Beat Of My Heart*, *Letter Full Of Tears* and *Giving Up* they begin to gain recognition. Even though they hardly earn any money, they become well-known. Motown signs them in 1966, against Gladys's will. She fears for losing her independence as an artist, but is overruled by the other members of the group. Berry Gordy, the man behind Motown, recognizes the ensemble's extraordinary class. With legendary Broadway dancer Cholly Atkins as their choreographer, the stage shows are sensational and come to shape the Motown-Style.

They produce hit songs such as *Friendship Train*, *If I Were Your Woman*, and *Help Me Make It Through The Night*, and in 1967 *I Heard It Through The Grapevine* tops it all off by achieving 2.5 million sales. The 1969 song *Midnight Train To Georgia* shows an amazing musical maturity. In 1974, the group's outstanding work is honored with two Grammys.

But the success doesn't last. Gladys suspects Motown of withholding royalties and changes labels, signing with Columbia Records. The ensuing court case drives the group apart. Gladys goes on to work on solo projects and acting roles, and opens two successful “Chicken & Waffles” restaurants. The “Empress of Soul” is a successful solo artist. She performs at the Olympic Games, records duets with **Frank Sinatra** and **Elton John**, and has seven Grammys und 38 LPs to her credit. In 1992 she is one of eight African American women to receive the Essence Award for significant contribution to American society and culture.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

Nelson George: *Where Did Our Love Go? – The Rise and Fall of the Motown Sound*. Omnibus Press [paperback]

February 8, 2011: *Motown war der heißeste Laden*. Interview of Johannes Waechter. *Süddeutsche Zeitung Magazin*

Gladys Knight & The Pips: *Greatest Hits* (1990) [CD]

Gladys Knight: *At Last* (2000) [CD]



SWEETSOULMUSIC
Revue



HARRIET LEWIS
DERRICK ALEXANDER
ALEX HUTSON
WALDO WEATHERS

MOTOWN

THE SOUND OF AMERICA

Record labels play a vital role in the history of *Sweet Soul Music*. Without them, soul artists could never have climbed the “Mount Olympus of pop music”. One company in particular wrote global music history – Motown.

In 1959 Berry Gordy jr., a plasterer and upholsterer working night shifts at Ford, founds Motown (Motown = Motor Town) in the garage of his house in Detroit. His seed capital is \$800. A flyweight boxer, he isn't a man to be crossed. But the self-made man is also a passionate music lover. And as an African American, Gordy does not see why the music business should still be a “whites-only” business, where the black people make the music but the white people the money.

Significantly, the first hit they land is *Money – That's What I Want*, performed by **Barret Strong**. Gordy's family has had to take out a loan to get this record on the way. It makes it to No. 2 in the Billboard Charts. This success encourages him and **Smokey Robinson** (Berry's friend and musical director) to continue on their path. Smokey, singer in **The Miracles** and also the company's Vice-President, leads Motown's legendary studio band **The Funk Brothers**. They can arrange any song in the typical Motown fashion – practically in their sleep. The well-tuned Chain Gang also knows how to work. In Motown's heyday they record three songs per day, or more often, per night. A large part of the highly productive label's success has to be attributed to its trio of congenial composers, Brian Holland, Lamont Dozier and Eddie Holland.

Bery Gordy is pedantic, and a musical truffle pig. He has a clear aim and his mission hangs engraved over the company's door: “Hitville USA”. During Motown's best years, 30% of all American top ten hits are produced at this pop-magician's studio in Detroit. When it comes to his dream, Gordy knows no mercy. Records are taken off the market if not successful within the first seven days. Democracy is also a scarce good at Motown. When **Gladys Knight** asks why her band has no arrangement rights, even though \$20,000 were deducted for this purpose, she is dismissed. When David Ruffin of **The Temptations** wants to know why he is still on no more than \$500 per week, he is frozen out.

Nevertheless, Motown's standard and success are overwhelming. Berry Gordy wants to develop young black artists and make them successful. He wants to make black soul which (also) appeals to whites. His style concept is the key: Motown artists have to be smartly dressed, know how to talk sophisticatedly and be of decent behavior. They also have to be able to walk the stage of life aristocratically. In order to achieve this, Gordy sends each of his artists to style and etiquette training, musical coaching and Motown's own boutique for clothing.

During Motown's prime, it has artists such as **The Marvelettes**, **Diana Ross & The Supremes**, **Gladys Knight & The Pips**, **The Four Tops**, **The Temptations**, **Stevie Wonder** and **The Jackson Five** under contract. By the end of the 60s it is the most successful company run by African Americans in the U.S. When Gordy sells it in 1988, he receives 61 million dollars for his life's work. Motown proved conclusively that the 20th century world sounds more modern because of black artists and their music.

THE TEMPTATIONS

GET READY

In 1960, Paul Williams (Tenor), Otis Williams (Tenor), Elbridge “Al” Bryant (Tenor), Eddie Kendricks (Lead tenor/Falsetto) and Melvin Franklin (Bass) form **The Temptations** in “Motor-Town“ Detroit to conquer the Olympus of soul. They become the male superstars of Motown, counterparts to **Diana Ross & The Supremes**.

What sets them apart is their dominant basso which, interwoven with the powerful tenors and the doleful falsettos, forms the musical structure. To this they add their perfectly created dance style, the “Temps-Walk”. They aim to tempt all the lovers of the world. Most of their songs are written by Motown's Vice-President, **Smokey Robinson**, and many of them are well-known to this day: *My Girl* (in the German charts for 8 weeks), *Since I Lost My Baby*, *Ain't Too Proud To Beg* or the No. 1 hit *Just My Imagination*.

Financial quarrels with Motown's management lead to various changes in the group. In 1973, Williams is found dead in his car close to the Motown office. Bad health, marriage problems, and \$80,000 of debt with the IRS had led him to shoot himself.

To save the group, they are ordered to change their sound. The result may best be called ‘black psychedelic pop’ – songs with bombastic orchestration and “*black is beautiful*” slogans. Many of the verbose arrangements are the work of **Sly Stone**. In 1972 they landed another huge hit with *Papa Was A Rolling Stone*, a pleasingly arranged 12-minute soul symphony which catapults **The Temptations** to the height of their career. Then things go downhill. The group and record label keeps changing, and there are drug problems. Nevertheless, **The Temptations** (the complete band) are rightfully accepted into the Hall of Fame in 1989. Nowadays, Dennis Edwards carries on the name and legend as a show band.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

The Temptations: Meet The Temptations [CD]

The Temptations: Live. (1969) (Stereo, February 8, 2011) [CD]

The Temptations: All Directions (includes the famous 12-minute version of “Papa Was a Rolling Stone”) (1972) [album]

The Temptations: Anthology (1995) [CD]



SWEETSOULMUSIC
Revue



WALDO WEATHERS
ALEX HUTSON
DERRICK ALEXANDER
JIMMY JAMES
DANIEL STOYANOV

DERRICK ALEXANDER



“*Very Superstitious.....!*” – When **Derrick Alexander** sings this **Stevie Wonder** song, it is hard to believe it is not the blind grand master of soul himself. This very pleasant person and singer is born in the Motown city Detroit. His singing career starts in a gospel choir. As one of the best gospel singers in the U.S., he is called to be part of the “United States Army Europe Soldier Chorus”, where **Klaus Gassmann** discovers him for his **Sweet Soul Music Revue**. In the revue, Derrick is responsible for the polyphonic arrangements.

Derrick’s first two solos for the **Sweet Soul Music Revue** are **Stevie Wonder’s** *I Wish and Superstitious*. He performs *Soul Man, Hold On I’m Coming, I Take What I Want* and *Soothe Me* as part of the **Sam & Dave** tributes and sings a solo in *I Can’t Help Myself (The Four Tops)* and in *Papa Was A Rolling Stone (The Temptations)*.

Sweet Soul Music Revue Tip:

May 13th, 2010: Der Sonnenschein unseres Lebens – Stevie Wonder wird 60. Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung
Stevie Wonder: *Songs in the Key of Life* (1976) [album]
Stevie Wonder: *Song Review. A Greatest Hits Collection* (re-release by Zounds, all titles have been digitally re-mastered, 24 karat gold CD) (1997) [CD]
Stevie Wonder: *20th Century Masters* [CD]

STEVIE WONDER

THE SAVIOR

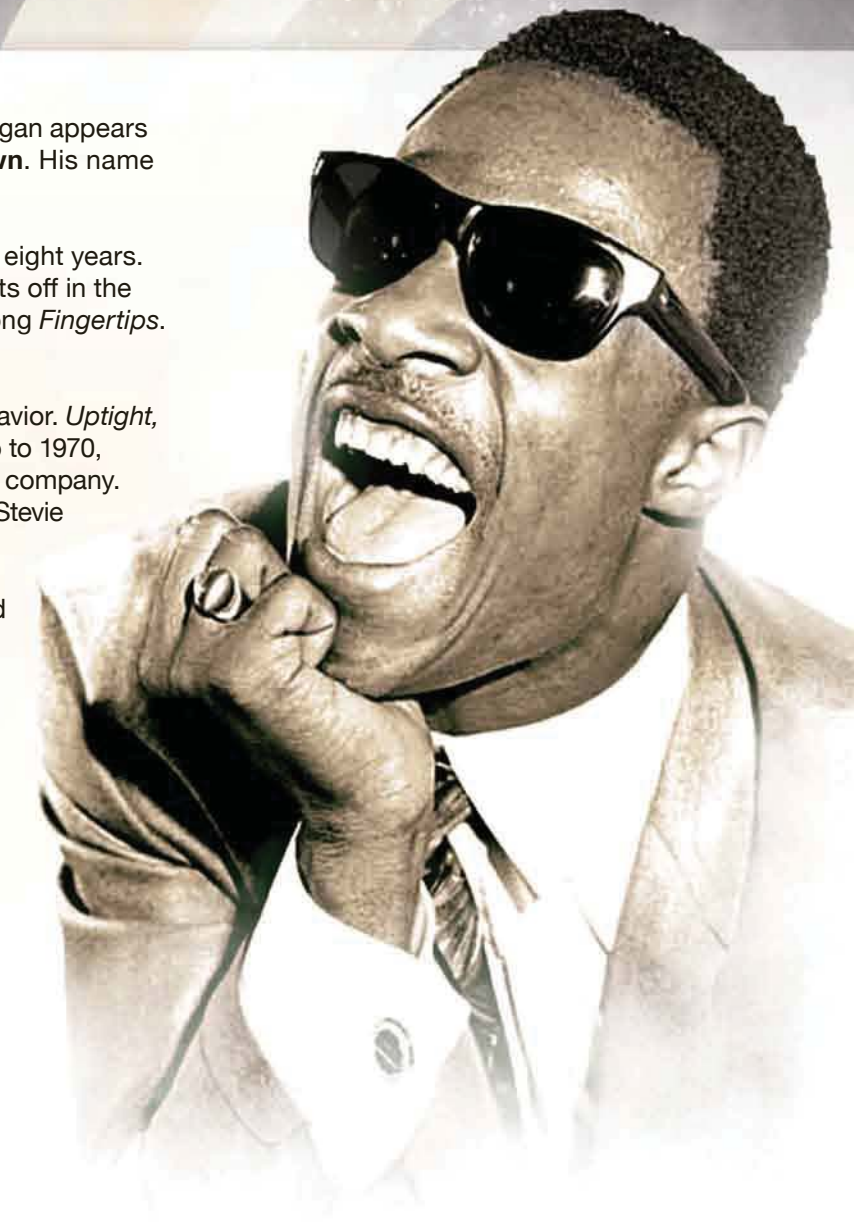
At the end of the 60s, *Sweet Soul Music* is close to losing its luster. But a young blind musician from Michigan appears on the scene and carries on the legacy of the soul giants **Sam Cooke, Ray Charles** und **James Brown**. His name is Steveland Judkins, better known as **Stevie Wonder**.

He receives his singing training in a gospel choir, making his first stage appearance at the tender age of eight years. Ronnie White of **The Miracles** brings him to Motown Records, where the 12-year-old “Little Stevie” starts off in the typical **Ray Charles** manner. His first concert is at the famous Apollo Theater, where he performs his song *Fingertips*. It is released shortly afterwards and becomes one of the ten best-selling records of 1963.

During the ensuing period Stevie guarantees hits for the Detroit music factory, and becomes its financial savior. *Uptight, For Once In My Life* or *I Was Made To Love Her* are examples of the best-selling singles of these times. Up to 1970, he generates more than 30 Million Dollars for Motown. In 1971, the one-in-a-million artist leaves his record company. He feels relief at having escaped from the “*citadels of serious pretences*”. Having gained his artistic freedom, Stevie becomes the true innovator of soul.

He creates popular songs, dance floor hits, ballads, and anthems of epochal range. Stevie is well versed in all styles of African American music and can perform them with unbelievable virtuosity and compelling finesse. He introduces the Moog-Synthesizer into pop music, as well as the harmonica and clarinet. He also writes the soundtrack to *Woman In Red*, which receives an Oscar and a Golden Globe. 25 Grammys and the Grammy Lifetime Award follow.

Wonder also engages himself in the new Civil Rights Movement. It is, for example, thanks to his authority and engagement that the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King became a federal holiday in the U.S. Furthermore he criticizes Nixon in his song *You Haven’t Done Nothing*, supports the Anti-Aids movement, and performs at President Barack Obama’s inauguration.



SWEETSOULMUSIC
Revue

DERRICK ALEXANDER
KEVIN HARRIS



LERATO SEBELE

SOULSISTERS:

SUSANNE KOHL
KIRSTEN SCHAD
SABINE KRAWCZYK



SWEETSOULMUSIC *Revue*

THE BAND

KLAUS GASSMANN BARITON-SAX, GITARRE, BANDLEADER
ROBERT AHL KEYBOARDS, MUSICAL DIRECTOR
ARTUR JÖST PERCUSSION
PATRICK METZGER DRUMS
HEINER HOLDERBACH BASS
CHRISTIAN GASCH GITARRE
VOLKER "WOLFMAN" KUNSCHNER HAMMOND-ORGEL
HERMANN PEIZ TENOR-SAX
AXEL WELTER ALT-SAX
JERELL "SHORT" FAIR TROMPETE

THE CREW

ALEX SCHAD SOUND
UWE SCHAD LIGHT
DIRK HARTMANN MONITORING
PATRICK DESTANDEAU MONITORING
PATRICK SCHMITT MONITORING
FABIO DI BERNADO BACKLINER
MARTIN KOLB BACKLINER
MICHELLE JOHNSON TOUR-MANAGEMENT



SUB'S

RAINER DETTLING DRUMS
STEFFEN KISTNER BASS
MARCO VINCENZI SAX
LAZLO WOLPERT SAX
CARSTEN RÖDERER TROMPETE

LAEH JONES VOCAL
KEVIN HARRIS VOCAL
KLYIVE CLIVE VOCAL
STAN JONES VOCAL
VICTOR NELLUM VOCAL

MICHELLE BRADSHAW BACKING VOCAL
SILKE HAUCK BACKING VOCAL
ALEXANDRA MITROVIC BACKING VOCAL



Dear Soul lovers,

May this showbook – initiated by countless requests from our fans – help you take home the memories from this musical tour through the history of African American soul music. We hope that our revue along with these impressive pictures and the provided background information will be a contributing factor in keeping this wonderful music alive in all our hearts.

Our revue, created as homage to the great artists of the era and the well-known record labels of the genre, will take you on a musical journey “Down Funky Street” to a 50s, 60s and 70s America.

Our main aim is to present to you, our audience – fans of soul music who have grown up with these great artists’ greatest hits – a passionate and authentic stage show that gives you a broad and representative view of the soul scene of the era.

Younger generations are increasingly enthused by the passionate rhythms of old school soul, and we often find up to three generations of soul fans in the audience at our concerts and revues.

With this two-and-a-half hour show, we pay tribute to soul icons such **Ray Charles, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, Ike & Tina Turner, Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, Sam Cooke** and many more.

The photos in this show book were taken during our long runs at the Theaterhaus in Stuttgart and the Deutsches Theater in Munich. These and other renowned concert promoters have had faith in us and supported our project from the very start.

A huge and heartfelt “thank you” also goes out to our sponsors, Session music, the technical crew under the direction of Alex Schad for their tireless work and perfect service, our companions, friends and co-creators, Ben Schmidt, Rolf Zeitler and Thomas Rauch as well as the countless supporters in front of and behind the stage. Without their help and enthusiasm, this project would not have been possible.

Most importantly of course, we are so very grateful to our fans. Thank you for your loyalty, your many returns, your contaminating of friends with the soul virus, your enthusiastic comments in our guestbook, your suggestions and constructive support of the project...

Because of you, the ever-multiplying community of fans, we know that: SOUL WILL NEVER DIE.

Yours truly