

Orange Soul Sheet

Tipping to the Nu Music Movement

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Another Mature But Not Dead Story!!!

Its June! The music world celebrates Black Music Month and the summer festival season starts to heat up. The Playboy Jazz Festival happens in Los Angeles, The Atlanta Jazz Festival just happened a few weeks ago, The Detroit Jazz festival is coming soon, I Got Soul is happening in Dallas. You get the picture.

As I write this I am preparing to head to Washington, D.C. for the Capital Jazz Festival. In many ways the Capital Jazz Festival is the embodiment of my “Mature But Not Dead!” credo. You have heard me speak on it before. Powers that be feel that folks over thirty only want to hear old music from back in the day, don’t dance don’t sing along. They only want to sit home and act sullen. I say “No Way” Folks get mature but they are not dead.

This years Capital Jazz Festival has artists like Jeffrey Osborne, Howard Hewett, Roberta Flack, Randy Crawford ,Joe Sample and AWB to represent “back in the day” to the fullest. Ledisi, Eric Roberson, Frank McComb, Gordon Chambers, Jimmy Sommers will bring up the emerging newbies. Plunky and Maysa are D.C. area favorites and Boney James, Wayman Tisdale, Brian McKnight and Dianne Reaves are festival staples. Folks get turned on to some new stuff while enjoying their old favorites. Guess what? It makes them feel great.

I plan on having me an exceedingly good time. I plan on reinforcing the fact that I am mature but not dead.

Kevin Harewood is the publisher of The Orange Soul Sheet and the author of the newly released book “Make Your Move” –A Guide to Releasing Music Independently

Industry Spotlight-Pearl's Music Detroit Michigan



For a few years my only contact with Pearls Music in Detroit was via the telephone. Periodic calls to the store to check to see if the projects that I was promoting were getting any traction in the Detroit area. Those phone calls always found their way to the pleasant voice of Pat and we usually ended up speaking not only about my projects but other quality music projects that they carried at the store. When discussing business Pat always spoke of her store owner Walter Esaw and made it clear that his vision was integral to the success of the store.

When we started this publication Pat like many other store operators began to contact us sometimes in hopes finding some of the hidden gems among the independent artists and labels that have been released in the last year or so. I visited Detroit in the latter part of last year and finally met Pat and Walter in person. To coin a cliché it was “putting a face to the voice”. I visited the shop and even bought some CDs while there. The store felt like I was home. I see why they are successful. Passion and warmth can help you move forward in this game.



Orange News

The I Got Soul Conference takes place in Dallas June 13 through 15th. Malcolm Jamal Warner, Eric Roberson, Vikter Duplaix, Carmen Rodgers are among the artists who will participate. Panel discussions will also be a part of the proceedings.

The Third Annual Soul Summit will take place in Atlanta September 12th through 14th. More on the schedule will be forthcoming.

Regina Belle is finding success in the gospel music world with her new release “Love Forever Shines”. The album is released on industry veteran Ruben Rodriguez’ revitalized Pendulum label.

Nu Soul songstress Yolanda Johnson is introducing a new jewelry line called BeYoutiful. She is working with Madame Pilar in creating the line.

Shanachie Records has recently released recordings by Calvin Richardson and Hil St Soul. Unfortunately Hil St Soul’s United States tour dates have been postponed. We hope they are rescheduled in the near future.

Jimmy Sommers and April Hill are joining with WCLK Atlanta in bring attention to Habitat For Humanity- Dekalb County. The event will take place at Centennial Park near downtown Atlanta on June 25th.

Purpose Recording artist Angela Johnson will be joining with WHUR Washington in participating at this years “Relay for Life”. The relay is an annual event to bring attention to and raise funds in the battle against cancer.

New York based recording artist Peter Hadar is preparing for his latest release “Well Dressed for The Art Show”. It is scheduled for a June 17th release date.



***Lalah “Self Portrait” in stores and online June 3rd
Featuring the hit single “Let Go”***

“The most amazing thing about Lalah Hathaway is her very presence. Her voice invokes a feeling in me I just can’t explain. My favorite song on her new album is “On Your Own” and it is absolutely breathtaking. Lalah took me on a 6 minute 40 second journey that left me (a grown man) in tears”- Bryant Jackson BETJ

Artist Spotlight-Lalah Hathaway



Like her supremely talented and influential father Lalah Hathaway's musical output has been much too slender over the years. Her father's musical legacy included gems such as his live version of "The Ghetto", "Someday We'll All Be Free" from "Extensions of A Man" and his lovely duet with Roberta Flack "The Closer I Get to You". He truly belongs on the gallery of musical genius with the great Marvin Gaye, Steve Wonder and Curtis Mayfield.

For her part Lalah has an otherworldly instrument as a voice. She is also an incredibly intelligent woman at a time when much of the music scene is about "dumbing" things down. If she wasn't a singer she could be a cultural pundit.

She is a crafts woman who is especially touching in a live performance setting. I'll take her new release and put it in my car stereo. I will treat it like the rare jewel a Lalah Hathaway occurrence has come to be.



Welcome Back Chante Moore!!!

The Long Awaited Solo Project from Chante Moore

Chante Moore "Love The Woman" in stores and online June 17th

"Love The Woman" featuring the smash "It Ain't Supposed to Be This Way"

www.chantemooreonline.com

Orange Soul Top 25

June 5, 2008 compiled from a survey of key independent retailers and radio programs.

- 1) **Ledisi- Lost and Found**
- 2) **Conya Doss-Still**
- 3) **Angela Johnson-A Woman's Touch Vol. 1**
- 4) **Wil Downing-After Tonight**
- 5) **Rahsaan Patterson-Wine and Spirits**
- 6) **Algebra-Purpose**
- 7) **Angie Stone-The Art of Love and War**
- 8) **Tamia-Between Friends**
- 9) **Eric Roberson-Left**
- 10) **Calvin Richardson- When Love Comes**
- 11) **Plunky-Cold Heat**
- 12) **April Hill-Love 360**
- 13) **Liv Warfield-Embrace Me**
- 14) **Bob Baldwin-New Urban Jazz**
- 15) **Sy Smith-Conflict**
- 16) **Liz Fields-Pleasureville**
- 17) **Hil St Soul-Black Rose**
- 18) **Antonio Allen-Forever and Always**
- 19) **Cheryl Pepsi Riley- Let It Be Me**
- 20) **Amp Fiddler-Afro Strut**
- 21) **Josie James-Dreamer**
- 22) **J Live-The What Happens**
- 23) **Shang-Beautiful**
- 24) **Heston-Storyteller**
- 25) **Matt Marshak-On The Rocks**

Ledisi continues at number 1 with radio and sales action. April Hill is making some moves with mid Atlantic and Southeast sales and radio.



Billboard Magazine called April Hill's Love 360 "A Hidden Gem!!!"

Soul Tracks.com nominated April Hill as one of the "Best New Artists" of 2007.

After much success in Europe Love 360 is finally getting a wide United States release.

"I Wanna Be Free" making moves across the US at UAC radio

Produced by Marlon Saunders and Shawn Lucas.

www.aprilhill.com