

American Gospel Music

by Hilary Clay Hicks
The American Gospel Arts News Service



Word Records Artists Bring Gospel To New Audiences

"More people, doing all kinds of Gospel music, are being heard because of artists like Al Green and Tramaine," says James Bullard, General Manager of the Word Records Black Music Division.

Bullard, who has spent more than 20 years in the Gospel music business, has made history by engineering the so-called crossover of these Black Gospel artists to the r&b charts.

"For the first time, we've got Gospel artists being played on urban contemporary radio stations while staying on the air in Gospel radio," says Bullard. "As a result, more people are hearing Gospel music than ever before and the sales of all of our Black recording artists are up."

"It may come as a shock to some, but 65% of the recorded music sold by Word is Black," says Bullard. "Now, more than ever, Black Gospel is the backbone of the religious music industry."

Currently number one on the Gospel charts, Al Green's "Soul Survivor" album won Green two Grammys (Best Gospel album, Best Gospel single for "Goin' Away") and earned him airplay on r&b and pop stations everywhere. Tramaine's album, "Search Is Over" gathered her a Grammy nomination and her single "Fall Down" was a smash. Her new album, "Freedom" is due in stores shortly. Philip Bailey's "Triumph" album won a Grammy and yielded a hit extended mix of the single "Thank You."

The Mighty Clouds of Joy are cookin' with their hit album, "Catching On." The Richard Smallwood Singers are in the Top 10 with "Textures." The Clark Sisters are doing well with "Heart and Soul." Rev. Milton Brunson and the Thompson Community Singers are hot with two albums, "If I Be Lifted" in the Top 5 and "There Is Hope" still selling strongly.

Word's traditional Gospel artists are also no slouches. Shirley Caesar's "Celebration" album was nominated for a Grammy in '86 and "Her Very Best" is doing well and moving up the sales charts. Albertina Walker's "Spirit" album was nominated for a Grammy last year. Albertina and Shirley were nominated together for their single "Jesus Is Mine."

Part of the success is due to Word's distribution deal with A&M Records. Bullard once predicted that the Word/A&M deal would probably work more to the advantage of Black artists.

"We have simply recognized that Gospel music is not as narrow a market as many people suppose. Gospel is deeply rooted in the fiber of the Black community. The church is our main institution and so Black Christians buy its music. The fact is, grandparents are not the only people who buy Gospel. The same people who buy Janet Jackson albums buy Tramaine's."

"No one should get the idea that we've compromised our Christian message to sell records," he continues. "All of our music is clearly and unquestionably about Jesus and true to our convictions."

In The News: Aretha Franklin is coming out with her first Gospel album in 14 years, recorded live at her late father's church in Detroit with guest Mavis Staples and others....

...Malaco Records' Frank Williams was named Producer of the Year at the Gospel Music Workshop of America in Detroit in August. Williams produces such artists as the Williams Brothers (he is their oldest brother) and the Jackson Southernaires (of which he is a member)....

...Philip Bailey will perform some of his Gospel material on world tour with Earth, Wind & Fire next year....

...Nashville Gospel deejay Hoss Allen of WLAC (heard in 15 states nightly) is the producer of the new Doc McKenzie concept album, "Hired Gunman"....

...and Jesus is still the King of Glory and worthy to be praised!

Vegas View COGIC Counseling Center Step-Parenting Conference

The Vegas View Church of God in Christ Counseling Center, under the direction of Missionary Stella Parson, will be sponsoring a Step-Parenting conference Saturday, October 17, from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. at 1906 Glider Street, North Las Vegas. The church is located

next to Jerry's Nugget.

Registration fee is \$3.00 per person. To register by Thursday October 14, 1987, call 642-6211 or 649-4334 from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Guest speaker is Margie Morris, Marriage and Family Intern.

Greg and Barbara Loren in Concert

West Charleston Baptist Church, 6701 W. Charleston Blvd, between Torrey Pines and Rainbow, in Las Vegas, announces that internationally renowned singers, Greg and Barbara Loren, will appear in concert Sunday evening, October 18, at 6:30 P.M.

A former member of the U.S. Olympic Skiing Team, Greg has starred in several Christian films, while his wife Barbara has sung in many stage musicals, commercials and worked in the advertising field. Although they have sung before Presidents and royalty, the Lorens are especially well known in California and the West,

where they have sung in hundreds of churches.

They have recorded several albums, including appearances with the Ralph Carmichael orchestra and many others.

Greg's rendition of the song, "How Big Is God," written for him by Stuart Hamblin, won first prize for best Christian recording the year it was released.

The public is cordially invited to attend. There is no admission charge, although a love offering will be received.

Child care is available for small children and infants during the concert.

CHURCH

From Page 6

642-4345.

The Moments of Miracles Deliverance Center, 311 Madison Avenue, will be in revival this week, October 13-16, with Rev. George Archie of Sacramento, Calif. For more information call 646-3539. The Moments of Miracles Deliverance Center is pastored by Prophetess Amanda Irving.

You are invited to attend the Second Annual "Pew Rally" October 18 at 3:00 P.M. at the True Love Baptist Church, 1914 North "H" Street. Guest soloist will be Brother Lewis Bass. For more information call 648-3603. The True Love Baptist Church is pastored by Rev. I.W. Wilson.

North Las Vegas City Councilman Theron H. Goynes and his wife Naomi announced the engagement of their daughter, Pamela, to Bobby Ray Owens, Jr. The couple will marry November 28 at the Zion Methodist Church. The Zion Methodist Church is located at 2108 Revere Street and is pastored by Rev. Marion Bennett. In by Rev. Marion Bennett. Information number is 648-7806.

The House of Holiness Church of God in Christ will sell "Hot Tamales" Saturday October 17 all day on the corner of "H" and Miller Streets. The House of Holiness is pastored by Elder Melvin Sanders, is located at 2301 "H" Street. For more information call 648-7937 or 648-9496.

Rev. Edward Jenkins, presidents of the Region 6 Gospel Announcers, will be in Las Vegas Friday, October 23 at Moments of Miracles Deliverance Center. The Moments of Miracles Deliverance Center is located at 311 Madison and is pastored by Prophetess Amanda Irving. For more information call 646-3935.

Don't miss the first appearance of the Leopardtones from Hamilton, Bermuda. This is a group of retired men dedicated to singing praises to the Lord throughout the United States and the British Isles. They will be performing at the St. James Baptist Church, 316 Madison Avenue, Friday, October 23 at 7:00 P.M. Don't miss it. For more information call 646-4747. The St. James Baptist Church is pastored by Rev. J. Wayne Arnold.

The Greater Zion Flowers of Los Angeles, under Pastor Rev. Raymond Harris, will be at the New Light Baptist

Church, located at 1165 Lawry Street, on Saturday, October 17 at 7:30 P.M. and on Sunday, October 18 at the 11:00 A.M. service. Rev. John Henry, Jr. is the Pastor.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Churches are urged to send their services and program announcements, typewritten, to the Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice Church Reporter, Mary Wilson, at 1201 South Eastern Avenue, Las Vegas, NV 89104. Articles must be mailed or delivered to the above location no later than Monday noon of each week.

Public Auction To Be Held Oct. 24

Clark County and the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department will hold a public auction 9 a.m., Saturday, October 24, at Cashman Field, in which a considerable amount of office equipment and office furniture will be sold to the highest bidders.

The auction will be held in Room 103 of Cashman Field and will include the sale of: 95 electric typewriters, 1 MAG Card, 10 Memory and 19 Electronics, manual typewriters, dictation equipment, Simplex time recorders, shredders, 14 copy machines (including Xerox), desks, chairs, cabinets, video equipment, microfilm and lab equipment, televisions (both color and black and white), calculators, a microwave oven, and a Digital Word Processor with printer.

All items can be inspected Friday, October 23 from 3-5 p.m., and on Saturday, October 24, from 8-9 a.m.

Petals of McRoy



Petals of McRoy

Your Full Service Flower Shop

Weddings, Parties, Etc.

Fresh Flowers

Silks

Plants

Trees

Wedding Rentals

Arch & Baskets

Owner: Freddie McRoy

Manager: JoAnn Johnson

1020 West Owens L.V. Nev. 89102

Phone 702-647-1087