

# ENTERTAINMENT

## Ebony Etchings, etc.

### "MICHAEL J. ROBERTS, A MUSICAL FORCE YOU'LL BE HEARING FROM SOON....."

Michael J. Roberts is a youthful musician/singer/songwriter and producer that the world is going to hear a lot from.

The 23-year old multi-talented native Californian is quick to tell those who ask about his phenomenal rise in the business of music, "I was born to be a musician," and this statement really rings true! His mother was a popular recording artist of the '60s, who recorded under the name Patience Valentine. For those who can recall, she was the opening act for the late Sam Cooke when he toured and performed in concerts.

His father is John Roberts, an accomplished musician who heads the Music Department of Centennial High School in Compton, California, and serves as the musical conductor for Barry

White whenever he travels or performs. He too was a hit recording artist back in the '60s. His "hit" single titled "Sock It To Me" recorded under the name John Roberts and The Hurricanes on the old Duke-Peacock label, is still considered a R&B evergreen classic.

With this kind of musical lineage it was not a surprise to learn Michael was only four when he started beating on tables and chairs with a noticeable rhythm pattern whenever his father would play his horn or music played on the radio.

Sensing that Michael was a musically gifted child his father brought him a set of drums and started teaching him to read and play when he was six years old. Under his fathers guidance and teaching he progressed rapidly

as a gifted musical student, and shortly thereafter an accomplished young drummer surfaced in the Roberts household.

His early school years found him attending Wilshire Crest Elementary before continuing on to the John Burrows Junior High in Los Angeles. Following his graduation from John Burrows Junior High, Michael attended Pasadena High School for two years before transferring to Centennial High School, where he graduated.

Throughout his school years Michael Roberts was an excellent student. He also played drums in both the marching band and orchestra at both Junior High and Senior High Schools. While attending Junior High School he studied and started playing the tuba to learn more about bass lines and musical rhythms.

After graduating from Centennial High School he enrolled at Cal State College in Los Angeles, where he studied general studies for two years. During the time he was enrolled at Cal State his older brother Trent Lanier Roberts who lives in Houston and is a professional vocalist

and keyboard player showed him some things on the piano, and mastery of the keyboards became his next musical challenge to conquer. Being a gifted prodigy and a well trained musician, it did not take long before Michael became a proficient pianist.

As an accomplished keyboard player Michael started writing songs and material in between studies and practice sessions. Somewhere along the way, he can't remember exactly when, he started singing. As both newly found musical interests started improving, his thoughts turned to recording himself.

His big break came when Barry White who had watched him grow up and knew of his musical abilities through the association he had with his father, asked Michael to become his drummer. That was in '89, and he has been traveling and playing drums with the legendary Barry White since then, and garnering a wealth of professional musical experience all along the way.

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## SENTINEL-VOICE TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1.) YOU GOT ME WAITING (Remix) - Heavy D
- 2.) ANYTHING - SWV
- 3.) REGULATOR - Warren G & Nate Dog
- 4.) ANYTIME/ANYWHERE - Janet Jackson
- 5.) I WISH - Gabrielle
- 6.) YOUR BODYS CALLING - R. Kelly
- 7.) CAN'T GET ENOUGH - El DeBarge
- 8.) BUMP-N-GRIND (Remix) - R. Kelly
- 9.) I BELIEVE - Sounds Of Blackness
- 10.) LOVE ON MY MIND (Remix) - Xscape



HEAVY D

2nd Week At #1: YOU GOT ME WAITING (Remix) - Heavy D  
PICK HIT OF THE WEEK: INFATUATION - Jamie Foxx

TOP JAZZ CATS FROM THE CAT HIMSELF: 1. Bob James - Restless 2. Solsonics - Jazz In The Present Tense 3. Fourplay - Between The Sheets 4. Marcus Miller - The Sun Don't Lie 5. Stanley Jordan - Bolero 6. Lee Ritenour - Wes Bound 7. Hugh Masekela - Hope 8. Joe McBride - Gift For Tomorrow 9. The Brew - In The Beginning 10. Dotsero - Out Of Hand.

CAT'S EYE: Tony Re'my - Boof/GRP, Triad - Terry's Tavern/Artifex Records, Richie Havens - Yes/Solar Records, Incognito - Positivity/Verve Forecast.

Don't forget NIGHT TRAXX with Cat Daddy from 8 p.m. to midnight Monday through Wednesday for easy listening R&B and jazz.

Top 10 compiled by Darnell 2 Short Brown

DANNY DEVITO

A new comedy from the director of "Big," "Awakenings," and "A League of Their Own."

# RENAISSANCE MAN

ANDREW G. VAJNA TOUCHSTONE PICTURES - CINERGI-PARKWAY  
PENNY MARSHALL & DANNY DEVITO "RENAISSANCE MAN"  
GREGORY HINES JAMES REMAR CLIFF ROBERTSON  
HANS ZIMMER PENNY MARSHALL BUZZ FEITSHANS JIM BURNSTEIN  
SARA COLLETON ELLIOT ABBOTT ROBERT GREENHUT

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED  
Some Material May Be Inappropriate for Children Under 13

CINERGI TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

**STARTS FRIDAY, JUNE 3**  
**AT THEATRES EVERYWHERE**

## SELF-REALIZATION

"I REALLY DID IT LAST NIGHT," BARRY THOUGHT. "GOT DRUNK, ACTED STUPID AND WENT HOME WITH WHO IS THAT?"

"WHAT AM I STUPID? HOW DID I DO THIS?" BARRY BEGAN TO WORRY, REALLY WORRY.

WHAT ABOUT AIDS?

THEN HE REMEMBERED, "HEY, I'M JUST A CARTOON CHARACTER. I DON'T EVEN HAVE TO SHOWER."

**GET HIGH, GET STUPID, GET AIDS.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL: **1-800-662-HELP**

Ad COUNCIL NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON DRUG ABUSE, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES.

### JAZZ IN THE PARK SERIES "SWEETS" EDISON TO PLAY JUNE 4TH

Trumpeter Harry "Sweets" Edison and saxophonist Pete Christlieb, backed by the Tom Ferguson Trio, headline this season's second jazz in the Park concert at 7:30 p.m., Saturday, June 4. The Jazz Organization with singer Laura Taylor opens the free concert at Paradise Park, 4770 S. Harrison, just north of Tropicana.

The series is sponsored by Clark County Parks and Recreation and hosted by Alan Grant, with support from the Four Queens Hotel and Casino, KUNV 91.5 FM and Southern Nevada Music.

"Sweets" Edison is best known for his work in the Count Basie Orchestra, which he first joined in 1937. The band broke up in 1950, but Edison rejoined it periodically through the next decades. In the early '50's. Edison worked with the Buddy Rich band and then made his first appearances with Jazz at the Philharmonic, with which he has starred around the world since.

Edison worked in Hollywood studios since 1952, performing for movie soundtracks with orchestra leaders like Benny Carter and Nelson Riddle. Edison toured in 1965 and '66 with Frank Sinatra and the Count Basie Orchestra, recording with them as well. He has performed and recorded with such legends as

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