

Bio Martha High & Speedometer:

The lovely & talented , ' Ms. Martha High ' , was tagged as one of the, "hardest working ladies in show business" ! Martha High was born in Victoria, Virginia and grew up in Washington DC. She use to sing around the house all the time and obviously had a gift. While still in high school, Martha auditioned for 'THE JEWELS' and wowed them with her blessed talent and became a member. After a few years passed they recorded a national hit (Opportunity) , The Jewels went on tour to elite nightclubs and theatres on the East Coast of America. It was here that Martha and The Jewels caught the eye and ear of JAMES BROWN. Soon they became his opening act and travelled extensively with his revue.

Their first album debut with James Brown was in 1967 - The James Brown Show on the Smash label. Mr. Brown recorded and release several songs featuring The Jewels until the group disbanded. After the break up, Martha stayed with James Brown and continued to work with him as his personal background vocalist for over 30 years plus!!! A length unchallenged by any other...

During her years with James Brown , She recorded a self titled album, " SAL SOUL feat. MARTHA HIGH " for , Sal Soul Records, New York City based in 1979, produced by , Mr. Brown. He also reproduced & released a single on her called " Georgie Girl " flip side , " Try Me. " on one of his record labels. During the years to follow she led newly formed groups , such as; The Soul Twins, Martha and the Honeybees, Martha and the Lazars and finally, The Bittersweets. Over the years she has had the opportunity to share the stage with some of the greatest artist known : LITTLE RICHARD, JERRY LEE LEWIS, THE TEMPTATIONS, ARETHA FRANKLIN, PATTI LA BELLE, RAY CHARLES, GLADYS KNIGHT & THE PIPS, GEORGE CLINTON, B.B. KING, MARY J BLIGE, STEVIE WONDER, MICHAEL JACKSON, PRINCE; the famous British combo,THE POLICE. and many, many more!

Indeed, this Funky Diva appeared on many funky masterpieces, to name a few such as; PAYBACK, BODYHEAT, DOIN' IT TO DEATH , AIN'T THAT A GROOVE, BRING IT UP, IT'S HELL , etc.; and on the unforgettable duet with James Brown, "SUMMERTIME " . It was an exciting time for her when she recorded the song " GO FER YER FUNK" WITH THE GODFATHER OF SOUL, GEORGE CLINTON & BOOTSY COLLINS !

After leaving Mr. Brown, in the year of 2000; Martha went on to record a single called 'It's Hustle Time (I'm Not Braggin')' along with a live album entitled 'Martha High live at Quai Du Blues'. Rave reviews spreaded to fans in Europe, Japan and South America and Martha tour results, were sold out performances.

In 2000, Martha appeared with legendary MACEO PARKER and his band as a featured vocalist. She has since continued to tour the world with 'The Teacher'.. Mr. Parker , which allowed her to start her solo career & touring with several bands....., ' Shaolin Temple Defenders' and a live cd with them called (W.O.M.A.N) ; The T.C. Gang , Rome Italy; MORBLUS BAND, ITALY most recently , " MARTHA HIGH & BAND "

Martha's touring continues with various artist, while working on her solo career & a new cd. Still featured with top musicians; PWee Ellis and Fred Wesely, Marva Whitney and Gwen McCrae, Roy Ayers, Boney Fields & the Bone Project & Omar, etc. She's been the opening act for " Legendary Sly & The Family Stones " , at the Famous Olympia Theatre in Paris; played on the main stage at the Montreal Jazz Festival; performed at the The Lionel Hampton Club ,in the Le Meridian Hotel in Paris, also at the Mood's Night Club' at the Meridian Hotel, in Monte Carlo, Monaco; where she received standing ovations! That's only to name a few. She has traveled and performed all over the world and living with a dream of performing in China , the one place she has not been.

When off the road, you can find Martha, doing workshops & master classes, in and around Paris. She provides her expertise and has been commissioned to participate in the development of rising singers. She's, like a breath of fresh air, with clarity and quality. Gifted with a sound spanning the musical spectrum from Soul, Rythm & Blues, Rock and Roll, & Gospel. Her soulful sound appeals to a wide audiences from the young to the ,still ' jammin ', seniors! Highly revered by a huge international audience. With her new released Cd, " It's High Time", now released in the U.S.A and soon in Europe; Martha continue to serve up a mesmerizing genuine musical sound of soul which includes her style of Rythm & Blues & Funk. Martha very proudly announced, she has her very own group of talented , excellent, mighty funky musicians & singers. We all know time, waits for no one....., so you must move on. The past few years , Martha is still doing what she likes to do most; taking care of her Mom , performing and traveling around the world. She is still with the Legendary, Maceo Parker and band also finding time to work with her own back up band plus several bands she 's been touring with as a special guest when she's not with M.P. Martha , recorded a single with the "The Speedometers" called ' Shakedown & ' You're Draggin Me Down '. Shortly afterwards, the very talented ,popular English group , Speedometers and Martha did a mini tour together in 2010 , promoting the single. It was very successful to the point of them promising to do it again. Making appearances all over the United Kingdom....., it did happen again. The tour was recently done in February 2012.

Here we are 2012, with a positive things getting ready to happen. Finally and long over due....., MARTHA'S NEW CD !!!!! Yesss!! A lot of Martha 's friends and family have asked her for another Cd, but it took time. The Speedometer' s , leader of the group, contacted Ms. High to let her know ; they wanted and would love to record a Cd own her. They told her , " she deserve to have another Cd and it was time. Mid February they collaborated on different songs and came up with the best that fit's the lovely, Ms.Martha High !

The release is set for July / August . There are songs that she never thought to record but she is overwhelmed about the experience and challenges that got her this wonderful opportunity to record the songs her and Speedometer chose.

We are proud to say, " look out this year for Martha 's new CD. "

' THE LIGHT' S STILL SHINING ON MARTHA HIGH '

www.freestyle-records.co.uk

<http://www.speedometer-funk.co.uk/blog/>