



SoulVision

M A G A Z I N E



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EDITORS NOTE

BK Fulton



“Music is a universal language. When we play a good tune, it resonates. This is because our ears are less forgiving than our brains and our eyes. When reading, our brains and eyes often fix things that are not correct. However, when listening, our ears hear the chords as played. The best chords sound in faith, hope and love.” - BK

| “Start where you are, use what you have and do what you can!”

We stand on the shoulders of many unsung heroes and sheroes that survived on faith, hope and love so that one day we could manifest the promise of our creation. This month, we’ve asked some of the best in the music business to share their stories and inspirations with our readers. In each case, a humility comes through that is tangible. It’s as if a divine serendipity unfolded in our pages. We pray that this issue of SoulVision Magazine brings you into proximity with the person you were made to be. When we draw on the lessons and courage of others to do what was necessary in their times, we often find blueprints and guidance to push through the trials of our times. Last, while it’s true that we stand on the shoulders of giants, we must remember that we are standing here, not to be seen, but instead to see the way forward for the next generation. Our lives must reflect who we should be; who we are blessed to be; and who we were made to be. Go forward unafraid with SoulVision.

INTERVIEW

Raheem DeV Vaughn: A Changed Man



“Believe in yourself. Take every lesson and turn it into a blessing.”

Raheem DeV Vaughn just wants to be the best man that he can be. The prolific R&B singer recently released his intimate sixth album, *Decade of a Love King*, a testimony to monogamy. DeV Vaughn is now in his 40s and has rearranged his priorities. He’s realizing his place in the world. He has new insights on life, romance and the importance of showing character in times where some men still refuse to be accountable for their actions, even in an age of “Me Too” and “Times Up.” We spoke with Raheem about his career and what he’s learned about himself at this point in his amazing career.

Raheem DeV Vaughn: A Changed Man (continued)

Where are you from and what was it like growing up there?

I was born in Orange, New Jersey, in what was formerly known as Orange Hospital. I grew up in the Maryland, DC, and Virginia metropolitan area or the “DMV” as we refer to it around here.

I would spend my summers in Newark, New Jersey with my Dad. When I was with my Dad, I saw the inner city and the effects of things like the crack epidemic. I saw a lot. My mom lived in a more suburban setting. It was total night and day. And even to this day, the difference from one setting to the other helped me tremendously in terms of balance. It’s one thing to be analytical or book smart and another to be street smart. My upbringing gave me an edge. I think people who get to experience both the city and the suburbs have an advantage. It gives you a better understanding of the haves and have nots and how to relate to everyone.

Coming up, who was your biggest musical inspiration?

I love all the greats: Stevie Wonder, Donny Hathaway, Sade, Bob Marley, and Earth, Wind & Fire; you name it. Great music is great music. But if I had to describe Raheem DeV Vaughn in a combination of three different entities, I’d say it would be a sprinkle of Prince, a dab of Marvin Gaye and two teaspoons of 2Pac.

That’s what’s up. In your early career phases, before you took off, were there any important lessons that you learned?

I’ll be honest with you, I’m still learning. I think life is a lesson. I think the profound lessons are the ones that change your life forever. I used to wonder what it would be like to be in my 40s and how great it might be. I feel like as you mature in the business, you start to come into your own. I’m definitely in that state. I think making “food music” has taught me patience, humility and forgiveness. It’s taught me the purpose of and the

gift of time; the gift of one another, and the gift of decision making and how important those things are in shaping and growing the man I am becoming.

Well, tell me this: At what point in your career did you think that you made it?

I can’t say that I’ve made it yet. As crazy as that sounds, I feel there’s so much more in store for me and that once you tap into your greatness and understand the keys of life, that’s when things begin to open up. So, I’m starting to see opportunities manifest and I understand how to move certain things my way. Everything isn’t for me and every dollar isn’t a good dollar.



Raheem DeV Vaughn: A Changed Man (continued)

I can tell you one aspect where I feel I have made it. I realized, I won't just be held accountable for what I did on stage but also what I did off stage. That's where the humanitarian in me comes in. I started the LoveLife Foundation, a non-profit organization to help people. Who I am matters in the sense that when I pick up the phone or go on social media and make something happen, it is for somebody other than myself.

You see, the homeless man that I gave \$20.00 to, he doesn't care who I am. He just knows that the twenty might be his next meal or place to stay. There's an old saying: 'You don't know when you're entertaining an angel.'



What I hear you saying is that your voice has become a vessel?

Yes. It's way bigger than singing the panties off of women. I have the power to help other people without picking up a microphone, without parting my mouth to sing a line. It's how people have come to respect me. Having integrity is a lane that I have created for myself. It's important.

Throughout the years, you've done a lot of collaborations. Have there been any favorite artists that you've collaborated with?

It would definitely be The Roots. That's probably my biggest accomplishment. I'm a huge Roots fan and I would love to do an entire album with them at some point. That is something I'm extremely proud of—the work that I've done with them. Of course, I am proud of all of the work that I've done. It's a very vast catalog, from the Roots to Boney James to UGK to Usher to Jamie Foxx, and some obscure collabs. Last night, I did some features for some boys down in Richmond, Virginia who just got talent so we vibed. Again, it's about lifting people up and assisting one another.

Your last project, *Decade of a Love King*, was about being faithful, loving and giving and receiving. Why was this message so important to get out to the public?

At this point in my life, I believe in transparency. I've been very vocal in the last few months about celebrating the relationship that I'm in. Having that awakening and understanding of what monogamy is about is driving me.

Life partners are gifts that come from the Universe and God. They are tailor made for you. I believe your blessings flow depending on whether or not you abuse them or appreciate them. It's so important for me to put that message out there.

I can help men who have been where I've been. I want to expose the detrimental effects of womanizing and lack of self love and abusing yourself and spreading yourself too thin. At the end of the day, nobody would rather be at their lowest low when they could choose their highest high.

I like that. Man, you are always working! When you're not working, what do you do to relax?

I'm still trying to learn that. I love to be with the fam, kick it with my lady and kick it with my kids. I try to get in there with my parents 'cause they're getting older—just valuing things differently. I used to think everything came after music. Now, it's a different list of priorities for me. It's God, faith, my family and then music. This order allows me to put everything into perspective. My work takes a lot of my time, but I

Raheem DeV Vaughn: A Changed Man (continued)

appreciate those other things a lot more. I wouldn't be able to do any of this without God.

Consider for example, my day ended at 6 a.m. this morning. I was back up at 8:30 a.m., and then took a nice nap in the car service on my way to a reading in New York. I'm headed back to the crib tonight. I may get to the studio for a minute and then tomorrow, I fly to Houston for a show. It doesn't stop. You'd be surprised at what you can do when you put your mind to it. I try to find some time to recharge my battery 'cause I'm not a spring chicken anymore.

My philosophy: When I leave here, I'm going to leave empty. Not to say we don't sleep, but we leave here empty because we put that work in and build that legacy.

What advice would you give to the next generation of singers/artists who want to have a successful career in the music industry?

Believe in yourself. Understand early in the process that the gift of time is yours to claim. The gift of decision is yours to make and use wisely. And the gift of relationships and people will put you in rooms that you never thought you would be allowed to be in. You must be prepared when you get your shot.

God and the Universe do not give you anything until you are deserving of it. If you want to make God laugh, make your own plans. Listen for the voice of discernment. Believe in yourself. Take every lesson and turn it into a blessing.

Failure is imminent. It's going to happen. Failure breeds success. You can't be successful without taking some Ls (losses). And be prepared to hear a lot of no's. The most successful people are those who are determined to change those no's into bonafide yes's.

In the business that we're in—music, television, and film—and as public figures, few people want to be first. Nobody wants to be that first person who that has someone come up to them and say, "You told me this



was going to work and it didn't." Some of those people, may end up out of a job. So everyone wants to be second (or follow) 'cause it seems easier to be that cheerleader on the sideline, saying "Man, I told everyone that you would make it! Now, let's go spend all of your money!"

Just be mindful of those things. There is no "I" in the word team. Everything has its point in time. You can't rush perfection. You can't rush the creative process. Take risks and be smart about it. Be the first to believe in you.

That's real talk and great advice. What's up next for Raheem DeV Vaughn?

I'm part of this great film called Love Dot Com. I just signed on for a couple of other projects that I cannot talk about just yet. I started a new company, DeV Vaughn Multimedia Group, which will allow me to do other work besides music. Additionally, moving forward, I'll own my masters so my art will be owned by me. I'm proud of that. It will allow me to jump into the world of television and film with more to offer.

I've also been inspired to work on some self-help books. I think I'm a walking testimony for a lot of different reasons. This makes me want to share my story in the hopes that it helps people, particularly black men—young and middle-aged—in crisis who are trying to figure it out.

CELEBRITY

Steve McKeever: Still Grinding



| “Tap into the power of the unknown.”

Steve McKeever always knew he wanted to be a part of the music industry. It was arguably a wild idea, especially from a child who grew up in a family where his mom was an educator and his dad was a CPA. But the music spoke to him. It made the world clearer and just a little bit more balanced. He now owns the successful independent label, Hidden Beach, but the journey to success was no easy accomplishment. Even when Steve did not know where he was headed, he had a dream and made the right connections in an industry that is constantly changing.

The South Side of Chicago, Illinois, was a peculiar place for a young Steve McKeever. He grew up in Hyde Park, one of the few neighborhoods in Chicago that wasn't segregated. His family knew John Johnson. Muhammad Ali would walk the streets of his community. McKeever remembers riding his bike and passing Muhammad Ali's house. “It had an elevator in it way back then! The neighborhood was an unbelievably fertile ground for entrepreneurs, especially minorities. I got to see a lot of that,” notes McKeever.

As a kid, he had very eclectic taste in music. His taste ranged from Earth, Wind & Fire to Stevie Wonder, Elton John, and Led Zeppelin. When he was down, music would lift him up. He never felt the need to get high off of substances in part because he enjoyed the feeling music gave him. He realized the power of music through his own spiritual experience with it. At a young age, he “assumed that the music business was one of the best businesses in the world

Steve McKeever: Still Grinding (continued)

and he wanted to be a part of it.” McKeever repeatedly asked a local studio owner for an opportunity to work in his studio. The studio owner eventually gave him a job sweeping floors, but it brought him into the kind of environment he always wanted to be a part of. His interest was peaked even further.

His biggest inspiration came from an article he read in *Ebony Magazine* featuring entertainment attorney David Franklin, most known for representing Richard Pryor. “This guy’s lifestyle and everything that he was doing in Atlanta was fascinating to me and I thought, wow, this is a way to appease my parents [by pursuing a law degree] and at the same time getting a toe into the business I wanted to be in.” His plan was simple. He would become an entertainment attorney, learn the business, and then move out to California to work in music.

After receiving his law degree from Harvard University, he headed west to work for the elite full-service law firm, Irell & Manella, in their entertainment department. From there, he worked for the boutique law firm Mason Sloane & Gilbert. He was then recruited by his late mentor, Jeff Sydney, to work for PolyGram Records as the head of the business affairs department. Things changed for McKeever when Mr. Sydney set up a meeting with him to meet Dick Asher, the “head honcho” of PolyGram Records. Young McKeever was anxious to learn everything about the business. “Asher told me there was no limit to my aspirations if I genuinely wanted to help people.” McKeever finished his time at PolyGram working in creative affairs. He brought in the late comedian, the iconic Robin Harris, and produced his first and only album, *Be-Be’s Kids*.

McKeever was recruited next by Motown to work as the general manager and head of A&R. Two years later, his title had changed to executive vice president of talent and creative affairs. Here, he was able to work with the artists he would listen to as a young man from the South Side. “I was able to work with legends like Stevie [Wonder], Diana Ross and Lionel Richie—people I grew

up admiring.” McKeever was pivotal in guiding a new generation of artists who blended the new school with the old school, like Boyz II Men, Johnny Gill, and Shanice Wilson. Additionally, he signed artists like Queen Latifah and Norman Brown. During his stay at Motown, he also started Motown’s most successful jazz imprint, MoJazz.

“I was able to work with legends like Stevie [Wonder], Diana Ross and Lionel Richie—people I grew up admiring.”

Steve reflected on his age when all of this was happening. “When I got tapped for the Motown job I think I was 29 years old. When you think about it, that kind of opportunity is often wasted on a 29 year old. I look back now and I’m even more appreciative of how special it was to travel the world, meet people all over the globe, and work with unbelievable artists while developing creative projects. I’m sure I appreciated it then, but I was just working too much to take it all in.”

He was on his way to start a record label with Sandy Gallin, who was Michael Jackson’s manager; but after coming home from his honeymoon, spent touring the continent of Africa on safari, things started to fall apart. Doug Morris ended up getting fired from Warner Bros. Music Group. This limited Steve’s ability to start a new label as planned with Doug and Sandy. His very “plum contract” was no more. “It was a non-existent opportunity. I had just committed to buying a new house. I ignored all the voices in my head that were telling me to get out of the house and go find a job. I had a bunch of unsolicited offers to continue doing what I had been doing at other labels but I had decided that what I really wanted to do was run my own shop and do things a bit differently...” He felt that if he explored these offers, he would be enticed by the incentives offered and lose sight of his “entrepreneurial

Steve McKeever: Still Grinding (continued)

dream.” He admits that he didn’t know how to start a company from the ground up, so there was a moment when he was “...walking up the trails of the woods.” But he knew what he wanted.

McKeever saw an opportunity that was not being taken advantage of in the music industry. He recalls seeing artists like Madonna recording music with Boyz II Men’s producer Dallas Austin that was pretty left field of what the world was used to hearing from them. He knew songs like those would never be released at that time. One day he thought, “Wow, I have this vantage point that lets me hear this great stuff, but the public doesn’t get a chance to hear it.” Hidden Beach would be where artists could be free to experiment and make the records they really wanted to make without pushback from a major label. Success didn’t take long when Hidden Beach’s first release, Jill Scott’s *Who Is Jill Scott? Words and Sounds Vol. 1*, was nominated for Best R&B Album at the 2001 Grammy Awards. It went on to be certified 2x platinum and is now considered to be one of the greatest albums of the 21st century.

McKeever looked at everything Hidden Beach put out into the world as an experience. He would put a thank you note in every CD released to the public. In 2014, Hidden Beach Recordings became Hidden Beach Experiences. This transition made a lot of sense to Steve. Hidden Beach was already using tours and launch parties to drive music sales and to give their artists exposure. They just weren’t capitalizing off of these experiences as a key part of the business. But things had to be put on hold for a moment when the unthinkable happened. Shortly after announcing the new brand, Steve and his family were involved in a major car accident. “It was one of those reset moments where I needed to reconsider my priorities. For the first 6 months of 2015, life was just making sure that everyone could be put back together again. I wanted to be sure my wife could walk and my kids were ok.”

In spite of these setbacks, Steve and Hidden Beach continues to be a success. Steve is planning to release the eighth volume in Hidden Beach’s critically acclaimed Unwrapped series. He says it’s one of the best volumes



Steve McKeever: Still Grinding (continued)

they've done so far. "I probably have four albums of material spanning several years...." He describes the Unwrapped series as a "marriage between top jazz musicians playing covers of popular hip hop tunes."

He takes a pause and begins to laugh when we ask if he feels like he has made it. "I don't think I've made it yet. I've definitely had benchmarks of success in regards to things that I strived for at any given time. When I recently found some of my essays that I wrote for law school, it's a little frightening to see how close I went down the path that I had espoused when I was young. I predicted that I would come out to California, get in the business and represent artists. I wanted to give artists representation. I thought that was what was needed."

When asked if there is any advice he would like to give to young entrepreneurs, he emphasized the power of the unknown. "A mentor of mine gave me advice that I pass on quite often. If you can communicate all the steps that you need to take to get from point A to point B, then you're not dreaming big enough. You know you're on the right path, in a lot of respects, when you have no idea of how you're going to get there. So a lot of dreams get stopped completely when someone says, 'Oh, I want to start a label or I want to do this or that, but I don't know how to do it or I don't know how to research it.' There are a thousand reasons why someone says they can't do something. The power of 'not knowing' is what I call it. We can use that uncertainty. If someone had told me that you're going to meet Stevie Wonder by calling his office everyday for five months and become great friends and have a 30 year relationship and have him sing at your wedding or be a godfather to your child, I would say you're out of your mind. Would I do that same approach now? I'm not sure. We are all born with so much innate ability and instinct. If you have a dream, you have to learn to tap the tremendous resources that everyone has inside them already. These internal resources can help us in achieving any dream we can imagine."

McKeever loves California. Very few places in the world afford such a wide range of activities that one can participate in. "I love travel but I am forever appreciative of living in California; so, I look out the window in awe on a daily basis. Just being around nature, especially the water, has always helped me to chill and relax. I paddle board and just a couple of years ago started surfing, which is the last thing I would have imagined doing, growing up in Chicago. I ski as well. Those are the things I do to relax."

When he looks back on his career and the future of his business, McKeever wants to continue grinding. "I'm forever appreciative of everything that I have—my family, the experiences in the industry, the wonderful things that I've been able to do and the people that I've worked with. I don't think I ever had that 'this is it' moment. I think it was Oscar Peterson that talked about the moment that you think you've made it, you should roll over and die."

MUSIC

Cecily, the Songbird



Photography courtesy of Nakeya Brown

| “Love yourself. Embrace your talents.”

Cecily makes beautiful sounding soul music that soothes the mind and soul. Click “play” on her debut album, *Songs of Love and Freedom*, and you will be immediately greeted by the calming of an ocean and a mystical collection of instruments shimmering around her smooth and earnest vocals. “It’s definitely soulful, and in my opinion, timeless. I don’t try to be hip really. I just try to make good, honest music,” she says when speaking about her debut album.

Cecily’s career began when she made a phone call to her mother saying that she was going to listen to her heart and give herself to music. She could have pursued many occupations with her Political Science and Black Studies degree from Swarthmore College, but she knew a career in music would give purpose to her life.

Cecily is part of a long tradition of vocalists who write and perform their own lyrics. “I am a vocalist and a songwriter. My sound is rooted in soul with influences of jazz and folk,” she says. Lyrically, her work “explores self-love, hope, and growth.”

A Washington, D.C. native, she refers to D.C. as the “former Chocolate City,” due to its once prominent African-American population that contributed greatly to American culture. Just like many origin stories of talented musicians, Cecily grew up with a vast record collection in her household. These records included works by some of the greatest soul singers of the 70s. Think Minnie Riperton, Gil Scott-Heron, Anita Baker, and Phyllis Hyman. These influences helped build Cecily’s artistic DNA.

Cecily, the Songbird (continued)



Cecily has wowed audiences across all walks of life in venues such as the legendary Blues Alley, the Apollo Music Cafe and the Kennedy Center. In 2017, the US Embassy extended an invitation to Cecily and her band to take the stage in Colombia at the VI Annual Mompox Jazz Festival. Cecily was also a part of the Strathmore Artist-in-Residence class of 2018, “a program that honed her performance skills and encouraged genre-defying collaborations.”

2019 is filled with plenty of opportunities for Cecily to allow her music to connect with her devoted fans and gain new ones in the process. She is proud to have received a 2018 Project Grant from the Montgomery County Arts and Humanities Council. “I received the grant to record my next EP and I am working on that now. It’s set to be released in June. I’m also planning another East Coast tour and planning to go to Europe this fall,” she says.

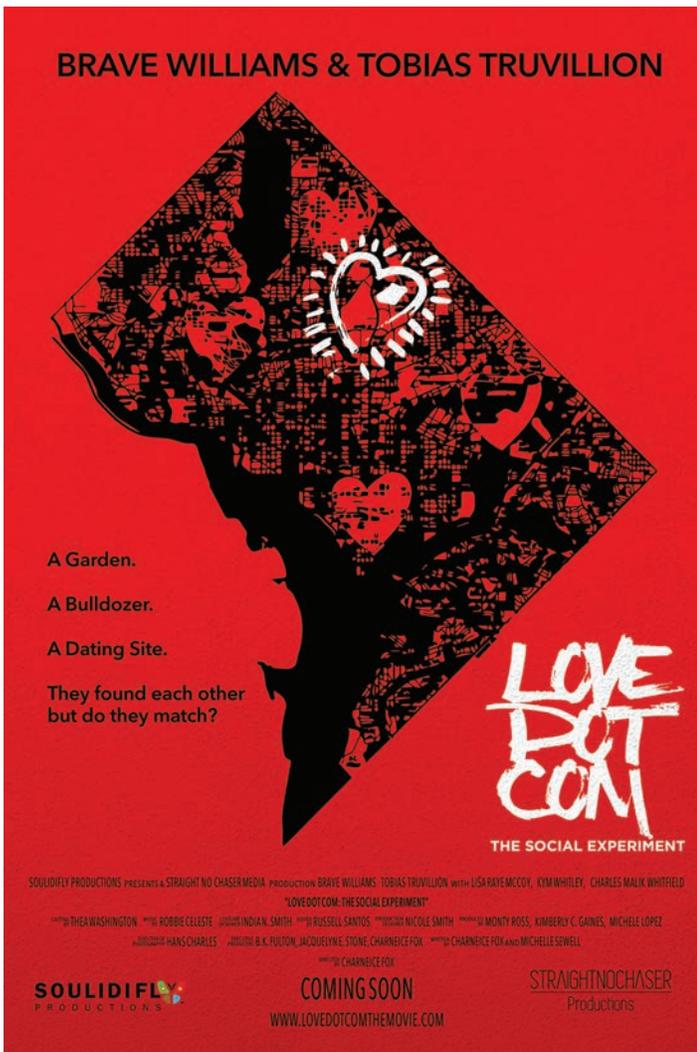
Songs of Love and Freedom was picked as one of the **best soul albums of 2018** by Bandcamp—the influential platform that has helped indie artists gain proper compensation for their music.

To learn more about Cecily, you can follow her on Instagram [@cecilyalexa](#).



MUSIC

Love Dot Com Soundtrack



The soundtrack is a love letter to fans.

For the past few months, Robbie Celeste, the versatile self-described “celestial-being turned musician” has been creating the soundtrack for the upcoming romantic-comedy, *Love Dot Com* (LDC).

The film *Love Dot Com* is a fresh look into the difficulties of modern dating and figuring out what we want in our relationships. Mix love in with commentary on gentrification, financial literacy, and healthy eating, and LDC is a film cut right for the times we live in today. The soundtrack is no different. In fact, it may

be one of the best since *Boomerang*. Why make that comparison? The soundtrack for *Boomerang* highlighted the sound of early 90s R&B and Hip-Hop while introducing new players to the game. The *Love Dot Com Soundtrack* not only captures the feel of today’s R&B and Hip-Hop but introduces the world to Robbie Celeste’s futuristic sound. His music has the potential to influence the playlist of the next decade.

Robbie’s creative process is unique. He is a self-trained musician, performer and sound engineer. He can play five instruments and work on all the standard mixing systems. SoulVision Magazine had an opportunity to watch his creative process in a small studio in Richmond, VA. Robbie started by looking at the sound and mix monitors. Scenes from the film *Love Dot Com* are playing on a monitor. Robbie is watching everything intently. You can see the gears turning in his head as he starts to bob and sway. He smiles and heads into the booth to sing some lyrics, “. . . I’m not thinking about you baby tonight.” The lyrics are coming to him; some of it sounds like another language. “I’ve been hearing your text/ curving my ex . . . for you . . . just for you, you.” This song would later be titled, “Pick It Up.” He takes a break and starts to play around on a drum pad. The electronic bleeps are reminiscent of Kanye West’s *808s* and *Heartbreak*. The dreamy guitar and atmospheric synth pads create a sense of a euphoric romance budding between the two leads. Robbie compiled a hit song out of thin air! All of us are amazed as we nod our heads to the hypnotic composition. That’s his process. He might just be celestial.

Another song he prepared for the soundtrack, “High Speed,” is what happens when the two protagonists from the film first meet each other. She’s not feeling him, but he’s feeling her. We all have been in that situation at one time or another. The record is fast paced, replicating the urgency that one feels when they want to be with someone but can’t find a match.

Love Dot Com Soundtrack (continued)

“Glow Mission” has a classic, four-to-the-floor beat. The two protagonists get loose. There is no letting up now. The funky bass is infectious. There’s a slinky feel to it all.

“Titanic” is likely going to be the lead song. It could become one of those records that defines a career. It eases up on you with a hook that is both cool and poetic: “You jump, I jump, that’s Titanic.” The lyrics in the hook are a play on the tragic ship we learn of in life while flipping it into the leap of faith that one takes with any genuine romance. It could be tragic or it could be great? You won’t know unless you try. That’s Romance. That’s Robbie Celeste.

The soundtrack, releasing sometime in February or March, is a love letter to fans. It’s modern, fresh and futuristic. It has the power to immerse and captivate its audience to get into their feelings or just dance the night away. The soundtrack is a great companion piece to the theme of the film: be yourself and you will find true love.

MUSIC

Robbie Celeste Is Out of This World



| “Be fluid with your creativity.”

Robbie Celeste is a self-described celestial-being. He’s not from this planet nor does his music sound like it; he is an enigma. “I feel like I’m from up there somewhere and was beamed down to Washington, D.C.,” he says.

The contemporary influences in his music are clear. His music recalls the nostalgic trip of performers like Frank Ocean and the chameleon-like artistry of Kanye West. Like these artists, a wide variety of mediums have impacted his work.

“Everything I work on has to be infused with soul, whether it’s a film score or a trap song. They all have to have a heart and pulse that makes you feel multiple emotions regardless of the genre. I see genres the same way I see fences. They create an immediate boundary and expectation of a sound, when really music should be seamless and fluid—like water.”

Robbie Celeste Is Out of This World (continued)



To understand his mind and thought process, one should look no further than his Twitter feed. It's filled with wry social commentary, observations about D.C. culture, hippy philosophy, and motivational retweets from the musicians he admires. He's a positive and hardworking spirit who wants people to explore their God-given talents. He plays multiple instruments and is self-taught!

Some artists want to move to California, New York or Atlanta to be known, but Celeste is proud to be from D.C. "The city helped me grow in a unique way. My craft is heavily influenced by the city and the live music everywhere. My sound is a hybrid of live instrumentation and machines that make noises," he says.



Celeste has big goals for 2019. He recently composed a music score and produced a soundtrack for the motion picture *Love Dot Com*, which will be released this summer. Robbie says his fans should expect "festivals, endlessly." He goes on to say that "big stages and oceans of people for me and my guitar to surf on are up next. So, stay tuned and come catch a wave with us."

To learn more about Robbie Celeste, you can follow him on IG [@robbieceleste](#) and Twitter [@RobbieCeleste](#).

CHEF'S CORNER

Chef Michael Hall



“Sun-Dried Tomato Savory Cheesecake is an elegant dessert for any evening occasion.”

Sun-Dried Tomato Savory Cheesecake

Ingredients

- 3 lb. softened cream cheese
- 4 ea. whole eggs
- ¾ cup heavy whipping cream
- 1 ½ tbsp. cornstarch
- 1 tbsp. oregano dry
- 2 ½ tbsp. salt
- ½ tbsp. chopped garlic
- ½ tbsp. chicken base
- 1 cup pureed sun-dried tomatoes

Preparation

1. Mix all ingredients together until smooth consistency
2. Bake in an 8-inch pan, in a water bath, at 225 degrees for 90 minutes and a half or until middle is semi-firm to the touch
3. Chill and serve with toast points



COMMUNITY

HistoryMakers: African American Voices from the Past to Present

“Learn from your past
and shape your future.”



Each month we will highlight a community program that aligns with the values of SoulVision Magazine. We believe engaging with one’s community is critical to fostering positive change in the world.

For our February issue, we highlight The HistoryMakers, a national nonprofit educational organization based in Chicago, Illinois devoted to preserving, developing, and providing access to the “untold stories of both well-known and unsung African Americans.” These stories celebrate the movements, events, and organizations that are not only important to African Americans, but to Americans of all backgrounds.



Founder, Julieanna Richardson, profoundly articulates the importance of documenting legacy and achievement in the African-American community: “In the times we are in right now, it is extremely important that our community take heed of the need to preserve our legacy. If we don’t, we risk losing sacred ground in the 21st Century and all that follow.” HistoryMakers encourages us all to remember our history and use this knowledge to better the lives of all Americans.

For more information and to find out how you can support The HistoryMakers, visit www.thehistorymakers.org/



LIVING LEGENDS

Dionne Warwick



Photography courtesy of Dionne Warwick's private collection

Dionne Warwick is one of the most successful vocalists of all time. She has racked up a number of accolades throughout her career: 56 Billboard Hot 100 entries, five Grammys, and over 100 million records sold worldwide. In May, Dionne will receive the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Recording Academy's annual Special Merit Awards. Her music has been embraced by the old and the young. Her songs, "Walk on By" and "I Say a Little Prayer," have been covered by Isaac Hayes and Aretha Franklin, respectively. For more than 30 years, Dionne has used her voice and success to help bring attention to global issues, specifically HIV/AIDS, raising millions of dollars to fight the disease. In 1986, she released the single, "That's What Friends Are For," with her contemporaries Gladys Knight, Elton John, and Stevie Wonder, eventually raising \$3 million for AIDS research and prevention. Today she continues to be a voice for AIDS patients. We thank Dionne for allowing us to honor her and sharing a quote that will inspire our readers to continue to dream big. Her music and advocacy is nothing short of incredible.

"To be inspired and to be thought of as an inspiration is the ultimate reason to continue to reach for the very best you can be! I have and will always believe that "If You Can Think It, You Can Do It," this is my mantra. I live by it and believe it. I've passed it on to my children and have hopes that it will be continued to be passed on to their children!" –Dionne Warwick