



SOUL BROTHER RECORDS – LATEST RELEASES AND FORTHCOMING TITLES Part 2 – July 18

Welcome to another interim review feature where we share some of the best newly released and forthcoming titles. All reviews are our own: we take time to review everything you see here so you know you're not just being fed the label's release info – we've been reviewing releases for over 20 years so it's second nature to us.

You can buy everything on this feature by clicking the image/artist/title info. You will also be able to sample sounds on most of these releases

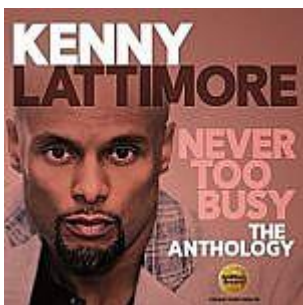
Enjoy!



[MILLIE JACKSON – EXPOSED CD £13.99/LP £19.99](#)

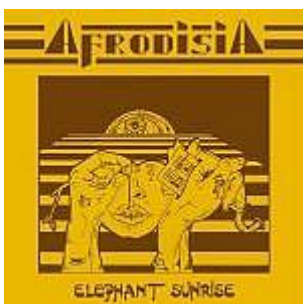
Incredible new collection of Millie Jackson sounds that have been mixed by Steve Levine from the original multi-track tapes with previously buried elements being brought to the fore giving the tracks a fresh feel. The drama filled 'I Cry' is a superb, socio-political ghetto rap that sounds immense, her cover of 'If Loving You Is Wrong...' is cavernous and vast while the thumping 'Bad Risk' is elevated to new, emphatic heights. The northern soul favourite 'House For Sale' is beefed up and sounds superb and rich while the popping funkier 'Sweet Music, Soft Lights And You' is another strong highlight but to be honest each track is a reward in itself – take a listen! Every track on this set is enriched by Steve's deep knowledge of sympathetic production skills but the music is never taken over by this, rather enhanced and given a new

interpretation.



[KENNY LATTIMORE – NEVER TOO BUSY: THE ANTHOLOGY 2CD £15.99](#)

Double CD collection of soulful R&B mainstay Kenny Lattimore, this set gathers together a handful of works with the short lived R&B/New Jack outfit Maniquin as well as a select group of tracks from Kenny's first two Columbia albums and his 2001 Arista LP. Slick, clean production and Lattimore's often breathy vocals epitomise the material here. Always on the soulful side tracks like 'Never Too Busy', 'Can't Get Enough', 'Weekend', 'Come To Me' and 'Destiny' are typical of his sound. One-time spouse Chante Moore duets on a couple of tracks while MAW give a soulful house twist to 'If I Lose My Woman'. Also look out for Peter White's 'Rain' that features Kenny on vocals.



[AFRODISIA – ELEPHANT SUNRISE CD £12.99/LP £22.99](#)

Afrodisia were a short lived group that comprised US service personnel stationed in Worms, Germany and local musicians. They cut albums with 'Elephant Sunrise' being the only project that saw a release. The rolling bassline of 'T.M.F.' gives it a funk/jazz groove while the blustery 'Psychic Summer' harks back to NYC Fusion. The Bill Summers penned 'Suagr Free' sees the group in jazzy disco territory while the superb percussive groove of 'A Fool No Longer' has a sweltering funk feel that rolls along and drives ahead with bags of energy. Highly recommended and almost impossible on original!



[KAIDI TATHAM – IT'S A WORLD BEFORE YOU CD £11.99/2LP £21.99](#)

UK Broken-beat pioneer Kaidi Tatham, maybe best known for his work with Bugz In The Attic, releases latest his much anticipated 13 track solo set and as ever, the man keeps the bar raised. The majority of the album is all Kaidi with this versatile and creative force playing every instrument. The uplifting West London flavoured 'Joyous' is a great way to kick things off with a bouncing beat, sweet keys and boogie B-line, the more laid back, soulful 'Out Here On My Own' with a strong conscious lyrical break provides an antidote to the fiery 'Your Dreams Don't Mean A Thing' and the angular grooves of '2Tone' and 'Outta Auda'. The afro-inspired space funk of 'It's A World Before You' features long-time pal Deego and is perhaps the standout track. The quirky lyrical 'Cupid' shows his hip hop sensibilities while the chilled beats

of 'Bien' also offer a mellower side. This varied and well constructed set will appeal to fans of Kaidi, Dego and the West London Broken Beat scene as well as fans of jazzy, funky beat oriented grooves.



[DAVID AXELROD – SONGS OF INNOCENCE LP £29.99](#)

'Song Of Innocence' is Axelrod's debut and is a melting pot of influences that remains impossible to pigeon-hole: one part psychedelia, one part jazz, one part funk mixed into a stew of inspiration and influence to birth an album that became a reference point for a multitude of hip hop samples and productions. The beat drenched 'Unrizen' combines thumping breaks with emphatic horn crescendos, soaring organ and sweltering guitar lines to build the drama, 'Holy Thursday' has a more mellow, deep, bass driven groove set almost in waltz time while the title-tracks 'Song Of Innocence' brings to mind images of late 60s air travel, TV suspense shows and a sophisticated lounge swagger. 'Merlin's Prophecy' is a haunting psych banger with lush orchestration while 'The Mental Traveler' is a trippy, spaced

out sci-fi fuelled mind voyage. Excellent stuff.



[BETTY WRIGHT – I LOVE THE WAY YOU LOVE 180GM LP £21.99](#)

1972 album from Betty Wright written mainly by the talented Clarence Reid/Willie 'Beaver' Hale duo, the title track is a snappy, bittersweet beat ballad with a blues edge, the driving funkier 'All Your Kissin' Sho' Don't make True Loving' bubbles with that classic Miami groove while the stomper 'If You Love Me Like You Say Love Me' is a good dancer. The classic 'Clean Up Woman' is also on the album, the southern tinged 'I'm Getting Tired Baby' and 'Pure Love' are also strong points. 'I'll Love You Forever Heart And Soul' has echoes of Alice Clark while the crushing 'Don't Let It End This Way' is another good ballad. Really strong album.



[THE BAMBOOS – NIGHT PEOPLE CD £12.99/180GM LP £15.99/180GM LTD WHITE LP £15.99](#)

Australian stalwarts The Bamboos deliver their eighth studio album and their first for 3 years and the wait is more than worth it with the quality of sounds on 'Night People'. Throughout the course of over 17 years making music they have shifted their sound from that early raw, Meters inspired 'Deep Funk' style to gradually move with the current trends, staying relevant and inventive while honing their chops. The sparkling 'Lit Up' - featuring the immense voice of album vocalist Kylie Auldist - is an emphatic opener, the glitzy thumper 'Salvage Rights' glows with a roughened disco glimmer while 'Pony Up' harks back to that syncopated New Orleans sound from their past with Kylie sounding uncannily like Sharon Jones! The stomping,

sparkling Northern Soul of 'War Story' is a call to the dancefloor but the track of the album is the stunning crossover gem 'Golden Ticket' – worth the entrance fee alone! This track will be on heavy repeat! The beat ballad 'You Should've Been Mine' is another strong standout on a phenomenal return from the Aussie favourites!



[SUPER ELCADOS – TOGETHERNESS IS ALWAYS A GOOD VENTURE: TAMBOURINE PARTY VOL 2 CD ££11.99/ LP £21.99](#)

KILLER Nigerian funk/disco set from 1976 that takes its cue from what was happening Stateside while also remaining firmly African, the JB influences are strong but the feel is of a hot and sticky Lagos mid-70s nightclub with that tight, live jam feel. The uptempo 'Tambourine Party' is driven by a heavy bongo beat and interspersed with chatter from the band and their friends, the aptly titled 'Afro Funk' is a less pacey, hypnotic groove while the deep, infectious 'X-Ray Guy' is more obviously Nigerian in feel but still remains deeply funky, 'Get Up And Do It Good' is scored by some razor sharp horns and has a Kool & The Gang touch while the group offer a soulful edge on the sweet 'How Much I Love You'. 'Price Of Fame' sees them

bringing in Island elements while 'Ejole' has that voodoo funk vibe. 'Tribute To Murtala Mohammed' drives on with bubbling percussion and a galloping bassline. Superb, essential stuff!



[THE SUFFERS – EVERYTHING HERE CD £12.99/LP £21.99](#)

Houston based multi-piece The Suffers, lead by the powerful voice of Kam Franklin, have delivered a strong second album that deserves its place in the top soul releases of the year. The timeless, vintage full band sound, the tight melodies steeped in references to a golden past and the dynamic tones of the lead vocalist combine to create a set that will be on repeat play for a long time. The sprawling 'I Think I love You' is sun drenched soul with jazz tints, the playful 'Do Whatever' is a bouncy, light hearted and uplifting groove while the poly rhythmic 'The One About Sace' allows Kam's incredible vocals to shine on a superbly inventive, infectious tune that is impossible not to move to. The pacey, summery groove of 'What You Said' has that Incognito style percussion and keys vibe, the more laid back 'All I Wanna Do'

and 'Remain' excel in their use of space while 'Charlotte' and 'After The Storm' are good ballad duets. 'Mammas' is a stunning crossover gem that sees Kam slipping into that throaty Anita Baker style of delivery while the soft swagger of

'You Only Call' is a mellow groover that bubbles away under the surface. They close out this 15 track set with stunning southern beat ballad 'Won't Be Here Tomorrow'. Superb album. Essential.



[DENNIS COFFEY – ONE NIGHT AT MOREY'S 1968 CD £17.99](#)

Previously unreleased live set from the Detroit Based Morey's Nightclub, this set sees Coffey and band (Lyman Woodward and Melvin Davis) in fine form as they tear through covers of tracks by the Meters, Beatles, Charlie Parker and more. The band set Wilson Pickett's 'I'm A Midnight Mover' alight with a screaming Hammond and guitar jam, 'Eleanor Rigby' is almost buried under the jam the track into a new form on a 13+ minute epic while 'Cissy Strutt' fair thumps it's way out of the speakers. The crowd noises add to the atmosphere and 'Burning Spear' is another epic at nearly 14 minutes delivered with incredible energy that makes you wish you'd been there! They takes things into psych territory with the pounding 'Mindbender' while 'Big City Lights' is another banging original. Incredible to think three guys were making

this kind of sound with this much energy!



[FREDDIE HUBBARD – GLEAM DBL CD £13.99](#)

'Gleam' is an outstanding live album that was recorded in Tokyo in 1975 and only came out as a double album in Japan at that time. It features tracks from Hubbard's then recent and forthcoming CTI/ Columbia LPs. 'Put It In The Pocket' has an edgy Headhunters feel though comparisons to Miles 'On The Corner' are not wide of the mark. Featured keyboard player George Cables composed the beautiful 'Ebony Moonbeams'. There is a subdued version of the Stylistics 'Betcha By Golly Wow'. 'Spirits Of Trane' is a forceful modal number that finds the trumpeter in characteristic lung busting form. Hubbard's other composition 'Kuntu' is a 22-minute Spiritual Jazz opus. Pleasing covers of 'Midnight At The Oasis' and Stevie's 'Too High' complete what is a classic live set that finds Hubbard and co in fine form. Awesome.



[FREDDIE HUBBARD – RED CLAY/ STRAIGHT LIFE/ FIRST LIGHT DBL CD £13.99](#)

'Red Clay' was Freddie Hubbard's first recording for CTI and an absolute gem it is too. The much sampled and covered 'Red Clay' became his signature tune and for the label too. The band – Herbie Hancock, Ron Carter, Lenny White plus Joe Henderson – swing on the jazzy 'Suite Sioux'. They repeat the performance on 'The Intrepid Fox' on which Carter's deep running bass is an outstanding feature. 'Straight Life' is often overlooked partly due to the brilliance of the preceding and following albums. The title cut continues the intensity of much of 'Red Clay'. The addition of George Benson to the frontline of Hubbard, Henderson and Hancock adds another dimension. Weldon Irvine's 'Mr Clean' extends the vibe albeit in marginally slower time. The Burke/ Van Heusen ballad 'Here's That Rainy Day' provides a

respite with Hubbard's magical flugelhorn capturing its delicacy to perfection. Freddie Hubbard's 'First Light' is one of his finest records. The title song is a Hubbard classic and he delivers one of his greatest solos accompanied by lovely contributions from Hubert Laws and George Benson. The remainder of the album finds Freddie in restrained mood. But his rich flugelhorn suits the delicacy of pieces such as 'Lonely Town', 'Yesterday's Dream' and his interpretation of Paul and Linda McCartney's 'Uncle Albert/ Admiral Halsey'.



[JOHN COLTRANE – BOTH DIRECTIONS AT ONCE CD £13.99 LP £24.99](#)

Recorded on 6th March 1963 from tapes seemingly lost, 'Both Directions At Once' sees John Coltrane, arguably one of the greatest jazz musicians ever at his most mercurial. A lost album by such a genius is a musical holy grail! It features the saxophonist's great quartet – McCoy Tyner, Elvin ones and Jimmy Garrison. The album finds Coltrane looking both forward and back artistically hence its title. There are modal tracks that would fit seamlessly into any of his early Impulse! albums, yet there are indications of the more explorative side that were emerge post 'Love Supreme'. The two untitled tracks illustrate his modal side, where as 'Impressions' (what a tune) is somewhat in the middle and 'Nature Boy' to the left-field. 'One Up One Down' is amongst Coltrane's greatest modal performances. Essential for lovers of Coltrane's music.

[JOHN COLTRANE – BOTH DIRECTIONS AT ONCE \(DELUXE EDITION\) CD £16.99 DBL LP £31.99](#)

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is amongst Coltrane's greatest modal performances. Essential for lovers of Coltrane's music. The deluxe edition comprises alternate takes and will be of interest primarily to Coltrane fanatics (such as this writer). The takes do not sound markedly different from those that made the final (?) album. Apart from take 4 of 'Impressions' upon which pianist McCoy Tyner sits out. There are 3 alternate takes of 'Impressions' in total, 2 of 'Untitled original 11386', where take 5 is slightly freer, and one each of 'Vilia' and 'One Up One Down'.



JOE FARRELL – JOE FARRELL QUARTET/ OUTBACK/ MOON GERMS DBL CD £13.99

Joe Farrell Quartet dates from 1970 and is his debut for CTI. 'Follow Your Heart' is dreamy and features John McLoughlin on guitar, whilst 'Circle In The Square' has a modal Coltrane like theme. The atmospheric flute led 'Molten Glass' is a highlight and 'Motion' is a frenetic journey into the avant-garde. The movie theme title song is given an enticing Spiritual Jazz like workout with Farrell on flute. 'Sound Down' is another fine post-Bop piece. Both 'Bleeding Orchid' and 'November 68th' are further strong modal numbers with Farrell's flue and sax playing of the highest order. The quintet on the LP features Chick Corea, Elvin Jones, Airtio, and Buster Williams. 'Moon Germs' is widely regarded as Farrell's best CTI album and his quartet is stellar featuring Herbie Hancock, Stanley Clarke and Jack DeJohnette. It is a class set with 'modern' Jazz tunes such as 'Great Gorge' and 'Moon Germs'. 'Times Lies' adds a Latin flavour, whilst Clarke's 'Bass Folk Song' is another intense groove. 'Moon Germs' is worth the collection price by itself.



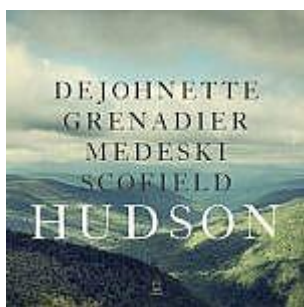
BILL MASON – GETTIN OFF LP £31.99

Hammond organ maestro Bill Mason recorded his only solo album for Eastbound Records in 1972. It features Idris Muhammad on drums, guitarist Wilbert Longmire, trumpeter Gary Chandler and Hubert Laws on sax/ flute. The title song is a funky Soul Jazz workout. There are some gritty bluesy pieces like 'Now Run And Tell That' and 'Stone'. 'Mister Jay' is a jazzy groove laden number that concludes a fine Soul Jazz set, whose only failing is its brevity.



DAVE KOZ AND FRIENDS – SUMMER HORNS II FROM A TO Z CD £13.99

Follow up to Summer Horns, Volume 2 celebrates a horn section that also includes brass. The horn section features the likes of Gerald Albright, Rick Braun and Richard Elliot. The CD comprises a series of Pop, Soul and Jazz covers. Standouts are 'Keep That Same Old Feeling', Natalie Cole's 'This Will Be' and Maze's 'Before I Let Go'.



DEJOHNETTE GRENADIER MEDESKI SCOFIELD – HUDSON CD £12.99 DBL LP £22.99

Hudson comprises guitarist John Scofield, drummer Jack DeJohnette, keyboard maestro John Medeski and bassist Larry Grenadier. 'Hudson' is the first collaboration between these four. The music is of a high quality – featuring the quartet's virtuosity. It is Jazz for the mind rather than being for foot tapping and head nodding though the Hammond led 'Tony Then Jack' and 'El Swing' defy that description somewhat. 'Hudson' is a hard hitting funky eleven minute track in style of early 70's Miles electric period, whilst 'Song for world forgiveness' has an ethereal charm. Everything is performed to high musical standards.



TONY KOFI AND THE ORGANISATION – POINT BLANK CD £12.99

British baritone saxophonist Tony Kofi delivers a fine Hammond organ driven set in the best Blue Note/ Prestige tradition. He takes 10 tunes composed by well known Jazz players and gives them that Soul Jazz re-working. There is something of Pepper Adams to Kofi's playing style that comes out especially on Pepper's 'Bossallegro'. Check too his take on 'Cisco', 'Moontrane' and 'Full House'. Outstanding



BILLY BYRD – LOST IN THE CROWD/SILLY KIND OF LOVE 7” £14

Welcome re-issue of this big money 1973 Calvin Arnold production. Billy Byrd tells a regret-filled tale of finding out his best friend had run off with his other half whilst at a party and the Black Cloud band provide the dark end funky soul backing on a tune that has been in demand forever. Incredible atmosphere on this tune that came out on the tiny Scream imprint. The bittersweet ‘Silly Kind Of Love’ has a similar tempo and Billy’s impassioned vocals gracing the disc.



STEVENS & FOSTER – I WANT TO BE LOVE/WHAT WOULD I DO (IF I DIDN'T HAVE YOU) 7” £14

The original 45 has the slow, emotion filled beat ballad as the top-side but modern soul fans have long since coveted the bouncy tempo of the flip. From the immediately recognisable piano intro to the stop start groove, this 1977 classic was the only offering from the elusive Atlanta duo who went under the names Stevens & Foster. Soaring vocals, atmospheric strings and a chugging wah-wah undercurrent combines to create an irresistible 70s dancer.



EBONYSTIC – MARRIED TO ONE (IN LOVE WITH ANOTHER)/AIN'T IT GOOD TO YOU 7” £14

1974 release from Aiken, South Carolina, Ebonystic released this double header on the Scream imprint (home of the Billy Byrd rarity) and this is also hard to find on original. The top side is a wonderful deep soul effort full of emotion while the pulsating funk flip is scored by some razor horn stabs, a primitive production and some studio effects that give a twisted, psych feel in places.