

A Time For Healing -- As the world responds to a year where our lives are threatened by an invisible virus and incidents like the death of George Floyd make us wonder if racial harmony and social justice will ever be attainable goals, we must do all we can to begin the process of healing, both physically and psychologically. As an artist, I hope there's a lyric or a melody inside of me that can help bring us closer to that wellness -- I thank you in advance for giving me your attention...



I want to dedicate this issue to those who took the time to listen!

Carolyn Bailey took a break from her job of delivering the mail to the residents of Suwanee, Georgia to send me a text about the challenge of being a rural letter carrier during this pandemic and to tell me which of my newly released songs she's been listening to.

"As folks are generally showing gestures of kindness in abundance, I am praying that grace and mercy from God causes this pandemic to lose its grip," Bailey wrote. "Songs like Behind The Mask, Where Hearts Don't Cry and The Words help me get through it."





Sid

rCarolyn has left messages like "I need 10 more tickets!" prior to a live show that she's actively promoted to co-workers. She's awesome!

Sid Versaci has been encouraging me to write songs since our days of delivering mail together on Long Island in New York.

'Many times, we would listen to each other's song ideas before we recorded a note. These days, if I send him a demo of a song that I'm working on, he'll something like, "Can I give you my honest opinion?" and I'll say to myself, "Oh-oh, here it comes." However, the criticism is always constructive.

He decided to take a gentler route for my new album, "Freedom Of Expression. "One request," he said. "Make 'Funk Life' the second track on the album." My response to getting off easy this time -- "Done!"



Infinite Cobbs is an aspiring R&B singer originally from Queens, New York, who currently resides in San Antonio, Texas. Infinite has an incredible vocal range and is hoping that one day he'll have the opportunity to showcase his talent for the rest of the world.

Infinite recently posted a brief review of "Freedom Of Expression," on my YouTube channel. "This is definitely a grown and sexy album," Cobbs wrote. "The words, especially with everything that's going on now, make you appreciate love."



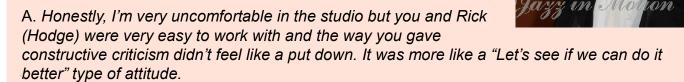


ARTIST PROFILE: Kam Showers

Q. Where are some of the places you performed here in Atlanta before the pandemic arrived?

A. I've performed at Riley's in Lawrenceville, Kats Cafe, the Sweet Georgia Juke Joint and several other venues.

Q. When we met, you said you've done a lot of live performing and not much recording. However your performance on "Light Up My Love" doesn't sound like that of a novice. How did you manage to sound so comfortable behind the mic?



Q. So now that you've gotten a little more studio experience are you looking forward to a new studio project?

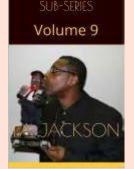
A. Well I have to be careful where I go during this pandemic because my mom is 85 and I don't want to bring the virus home with me but when I eventually get another opportunity I just need to remember the difference between delivering a song like a live performer and a studio performer because the dynamics are totally different. I need to keep working on that.

Q. Rick and I think you did a great job — and I'm wondering what your folks think of the song. Have gotten any feedback from fans, friends or family?

A. I called three of my friends and let each one hear it and they all really loved it!

Q That"s awesome! I can't wait until we have the opportunity do it live!

The Wrath of Covid -- and Your Psychological Vaccine



The Musicology Series

As a veteran Sound/Video Engineer and Audiovisual Jedi Knight, I was blindsided by the impact of the Coronavirus. Initially, I thought it was like the weather, just passing through; but when I started seeing upcoming events I was booked to work on get cancelled, I said "this is serious!"

After the initial shock, I had to figure out how to survive outside of my normal skills and how to stay at home and still be productive. This led me to my passion of learning how to play my bass guitar, and writing books about music history. So I pulled out some of my favorite songs, tuned up and started jamming along! I'm still not good enough to back up my good friend, singer/songwriter Cameron Wade, but I'll keep practicing! I also chopped up my "Musicology" books into smaller chunks, and put L.A. Jackson -- Author, them on Amazon as an e-book collection. So folks, use your "pandemic," down time to tap into your imagination and do something that expresses your creative force!