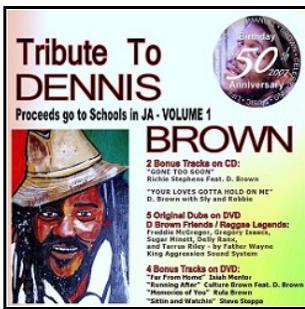


TRIBUTE TO DENNIS BROWN CD DVD RELEASE

© November 2007 ASCAP Dennis Brown Tribute Publishers



Order Now! at DBTribute.Org

- CD: 21 Tracks of Worldwide Tributes
- DVD: 92 Minute Documentary
- For the 50th Birthday Anniversary Tribute of Dennis Brown's Music and Life
- Proceeds will buy music, computer, and soccer supplies at Central Branch School in Jamaica.



"I couldn't imagine Jamaican music without Dennis Brown's contribution." - Mikey Bennett, producer

"Dennis Brown was Reggae music's ultimate stylist." - 3rd World's Ibo Cooper

"Every singer who came after Dennis Brown, regardless of their pitch, wanted to sound like Dennis Brown." - Willie Lindo, producer of Brown's classic album 'Inseparable'

"Dennis Brown established prowess from a tender age, and was definitive as a result. He was thoroughly grounded in the classic song of the day." - Dermot Hussey, XM Satellite Radio, musicologist

Bob Marley listed Brown as his favorite singer and dubbed him **"The Crown Prince of Reggae"**. **Dennis Brown**, or D. Brown as he was affectionately known, is arguably the greatest singer in the history of the development Jamaican music. Brown, as a singer, is certainly its most influential figure in terms of vocal style, which is his most important contribution to Jamaican music. Brown's vocal style epitomizes what a reggae singer is all about and was the most dominant and influential force in Jamaican music. He set the standard, which shaped and defined what singers, in reggae, imitated to achieve success. Songwriter/producer Mickey Bennett describes the importance of Brown's vocal impact this way. *"It was the perfect bridge between the dominant American Rhythm & Blues and Jamaican singing... (His contribution) if extracted from Jamaican music, would still, have Jamaican singers probably sounding like American R&B singers."* 3rd World's Ibo Cooper describes **Dennis Brown** as *"Reggae music's ultimate stylist"*. Singer Richie Stephens say that for singers of his generation *"Dennis Brown as the standard for Jamaica music"*. Producer Coxson Dodd referred to him *"god's gift to the world" because of his ability to just about "anything you gave him well."*

Richie Stephens whose career Dennis inspired told me that *"Dennis Brown was not only a singer, but he helped carve out that corner stone of Jamaican music. As one of the chief architect of reggae music vocal styling Brown is by far the most influential singer of his generation with regard to his ability to shape the generation of singers who came after him. No other singer in history of Jamaican music had the unparalleled and disproportionate impact, on vocals and singers, the way Dennis Brown did. Willie Lindo producer of Brown's classic album 'Inseparable' describes Brown's impact this way "every singer who came after Dennis Brown regardless of their pitch wanted to sound like Dennis Brown."* Peers like **Freddie McGregor**, who began singing before Dennis, told this writer he had difficulty trying to find *"my own identity in terms of sound"*, because he could not help trying to sound like Dennis Brown. According to McGregor, it took him years to establish his won identity. The post **Dennis Brown** generation of singers like **Sanchez** (who describes Dennis' impact on him as *"Big"*), **Luciano**, **Frankie Paul**, **Richie Stephens**, **Prince Malachi**, **Everton Blender**, **George Nooks**, **Bushman** or **Maxi Priest** all tore a page from his stylebook. His influence also extended to 80's dancehall singers like **Cocoa Tea**, the late **Nitty Gritty**, **Tenor Saw**, and sing-jays like **Pinchers**, **Anthony Red Rose** and **King Kong**, to name a few.

Before **Dennis Brown**, Jamaican vocalists in popular music looked to R&B singers as their primary influence. During his tenure new vocalists now had one of their own as their primary influence, as they looked to **Dennis Brown**. Because the authority and assuredness was there from the beginning with his first recording *"No man is an Island"* and, *"Lips of wine"*, this is what made Brown so appealing to young Jamaican singers. Brown's emergence created the link between the great solo singers who dominated Jamaica's music landscape from the 1950's to the early 70's, the Ska and Rock Steady era, the period which produced the great vocalists of modern Jamaican music and laid the foundation for a generation of reggae singers. While his impact on reggae music is undeniable, what made **Dennis Brown** stand out as a great vocalist? His tone and inflexion was Jamaican, but it was how he delivered a song, which made it great. It was this unique mastery that made him the definitive male voice of his time. Dennis Brown brought a style to a song. Musicologist Dermot Hussey noted *"Dennis Brown established prowess from a tender age, and was definitive as result. He was thoroughly grounded in the classic song of the day."* He was the soulful reggae singer whose voice had attitude and charisma. His inimitable, yet distinctive vocal style, one that evolved symbiotic with the evolution of reggae music, was able to, both on record and live performance to transmit the incredible charisma of his personality. The vibrato in his voice was unbelievable and, his was a phenomenally huge voice, with its edge, slow tremolo, signature slur, almost perfect tone and timing, and the ability to make any song sound right on time. He possessed that rhythmic quality to his voice, the smoothness which allowed him to dominate the rhythm track making every song, he sung, sound like a **Dennis Brown** song. And on his classical vocal performances **Dennis Brown** made the listener felt that that particular song could never have been done better by anyone or even **Dennis Brown** on any other occasion, so it gave the listener this "moment in time feeling" and this made them feel better for having experienced it. Of his many tour-de-force performances that established him as a sterling international stage presence, his career defining performances like the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland in 1979 and his electrifying performance at Reggae Sunsplash at the Crystal Palace in London in 1983 come to mind.

On this tribute album 20 great Artists donated their talent to honor and show their love and respect for Dennis Brown. This is their way of both letting the world know how much they appreciate Dennis Brown for his mentorship and influence to them and his contribution the development of Jamaican music. Another little known fact is Dennis' charity to underprivileged schools in Jamaica. This is tribute CD/DVD to celebrate Dennis Browns' 50th Birthday and his music and life.

Despite **Dennis Brown's** tireless devotion to putting Jamaica on the world the **Government of Jamaica** hasn't honored **Dennis Brown's** achievements or contribution with national recognition for his monumental contribution to the development of Jamaican Reggae Music. This unfortunate situation should change in 2008.

—Stan Evan Smith, January 2008

Stan Evan Smith is Music Critic and Contributing Editor to **Everybody's Magazine**, (NYC) / Music Critic for the Gleaner/Star (NA), Staff Writer-Jahwork.org, (California) / Staff Writer-Westindiantimes.net (Virginia) / Senior Music Critic-Jamaicans.com (Florida) / and Contributing Writer to POSH Magazine (Maryland). He can be reached at stansmith24@hotmail.com, <http://www.myspace.com/stanwsmith>

FREE TRACK DOWNLOAD

Track #17 on Tribute to Dennis Brown CD was performed by Rick Husbands and Irie Positive Band. As a tribute to Rick Husbands, who died October 23, 2008, we offer track #17 (Rick's performance of "Money In My Pocket" in tribute to D. Brown) as a free download. To download this track, please click [HERE](#).

D50thtribute / Here's Lookin' at You Ent
www.dbtribute.org

dbtribute@yahoo.com

858-772-0697 (voicemail) San Diego, CA.



- www.sonicbids.com/db50thtributecddvdcollaboration
- www.myspace.com/db50thtribute
- www.myspace.com/hereslookinatyouent
- www.myspace.com/hereslookinatyoubooking
- www.showcaseyourmusic.com/db50thtributecddvd
- www.indie911.com/db50thtribute
- www.iacmusic.com/dennisbrowntribute
- www.mymusic.com/db50thtributecddvdcollaboration
- www.blackplanet.com/db50thtribute
- www.blackplanet.com/dennisbrowntribute
- www.hi5.com/db50thtribute
- www.kingaggressionofficial.com