

MUZILOG

MY WEEKLY BLAH

WHERE MUSIC, ENTERTAINMENT AND CULTURE LIVES

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FROM JAMAICA TO HAITI WITH LOVE:

BY SAMUEL ARCHER

"[Listen 2 the call](#)," is a message of love from the music fraternity of Jamaica in dedication to Haiti. This was in response to the Earthquake that took place in Haiti at 4:53PM on January 12th 2010. With the out pouring musical efforts from various artists both major and independent, there's a good chance that many never heard about Jamaica's musical contribution. There were issues of balancing the quality and time available to have a professional sounding product because in the producer's mind everything had to be right.



Handel Tucker, Maxi Priest and Raymond Azan (l-r)

Since the earthquake, other disasters have occurred around the world and [Haiti's cry for help](#) has been forgotten to most. Homeless victims continue to live in tents and the sick continue to be cared for in poor conditions. Continuing to keep the plight of Haiti as a viable concern a strong focus on Jamaica's contribution can be a means of supporting.

If for no other reason, the back-story of this song is inspiring.

The story begins where [Raymond Azan](#) presented a childhood friend [Handel Tucker](#) with a song.

The song initially was written as a theme song for Raymond's "Charity for Jamaica," organization. The song was then titled "Hear The Calling," and

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LUCIANO blessing the song with his distinctive vocal contribution.



BEANIE MAN laying down his flavor and bringing it home.



ALL STAR CHOIR Nadine Sutherland, Tucker, Pam Hall, Carlene Davis, Chevelle Franklyn, Suzanne Couch, Una Morgan and Raymond. (l-r)

Brenda Russell digitally releasing two out-of-print albums.

this was to be sung by reggae artist [Luciano](#).

This turned out to be the song that would be altered in response to Haiti's crisis with its new title: Listen To The Call.

Tucker who is one of the top music producers in Jamaica brought on board his good friend Andrea Davis (founder of The International Day Reggae Festival) and after further discussions decided that instead of the song being recorded by one artist, the impact would be greater if more artists took part in the [historical recording](#).

Listen to the call has many similarities mirroring projects like "[We Are The World](#)," and "[Tears are not enough](#)." The Jamaican artists that took part from the different sub genres in reggae music all shared a common commitment in lending their talents in aid of Haiti. The all-star casts includes Mutabaruka, Luciano, Maxi Priest, Barrington Levy, Beres Hammond, Diana King, Jimmy Cliff, Beanie Man, Sly & Robbie, Pam Hall and Nadine Sutherland mentioning a few of the cast of over thirty artists.

This rendition is an impressive production and deserves to have its chance to be included along with all the major musical productions created to generate funds in aid of Haiti.

For more information about this project please visit <http://www.listen2thecall.com>



Tucker, Sly Dunbar and Earl Smith. (l-r)



By Samuel Archer

On the 9th of November, 2010, [Brenda Russell](#) will have two of her previous albums that have been out of print available online in digital format. The album titles "Kiss Me With The Wind," and "Soul Talking," will be available on iTunes, Amazon mp3 and various online music stores.

Inquires about these titles have been numerous over the years and the wait is over. Memorable songs like "No Time For Time," and "Stop Running Away," will be in every fan's mp3 player soon. Brenda's mass following can now rejoice.

Brenda has been a prolific writer throughout her career. She's written the songs "[Get Here](#)," recorded by Oleta Adams. "[If Only for One Night](#)," recorded by Luther Vandross and the unforgettable mainstream hit "[Piano in the Dark](#)." The list of major recording artists that recorded a Brenda Russell song goes on almost to infinity.

Her journey to this point seems to be "so good and so right." Hailing from the Borough of Brooklyn NY, born (1940s) to musical parents, evidently showing she had musical talent at an early age and relocating along with her family by the age of twelve to the town of Hamilton, Ontario in Canada where her singing and writing skills continued to develop. After graduating high school (1969), Brenda was fortunate to take part in the performing cast of "Hair."

In the early 1970s, Brenda moved on to Los Angeles where she would do studio sessions as a background singer. Brenda

along with her then husband Bryan Russell signed on to Elton John's Rocket Label as a duet group in 1976. The duet albums are "World Called Love," and "Supersonic Lover." As history revealed, Brenda continued her journey as a solo artist. In the late 70s she signed to Horizon records, a subsidiary of A&M records. The first single was "[So Good, So Right](#)."

Since her debut album, Brenda has recorded over eight solo albums spanning from 1979 to 2004, and has written music featured in films like John Q Starring Denzel Washington and How Stella got her Groove Back."

In September 2010, "[In The Thick Of It: The Best of Brenda Russell](#)" was released with fourteen tracks featuring most of her hits over the years.

N.B.

There's another title that will be available early 2011, and it's the first time it will be available on Compact Disk. This is the "Love Life," album. Love Life was originally released in 1981.



Mimi Jones (The Mean Bassist)



By Samuel Archer

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Women and strings seem to have a tight relationship over the decades from the manipulation of fabric and thread to annals of medicine, the female touch that's tender with reason transcend time and barriers. Even the mere shape of many stringed instruments says "woman." In the world of music, women have been marking their territory and just like their male counterparts they can captivate and leave the interested mind in thought, marveling at the display of musical talent.

Focusing on Mimi Jones, she brings "A New Day," A jazzy compact disc with 12 musical movements boasting eclectic influences and inspirations from the likes of Miles Davis, Tracey Chapman, Wayne Shorter and Sade. Known in the music circuit as a bassist, on this project Mimi is also composing, arranging and daringly ventures vocally, which clothes the album giving her a total musical definition to listening ears.

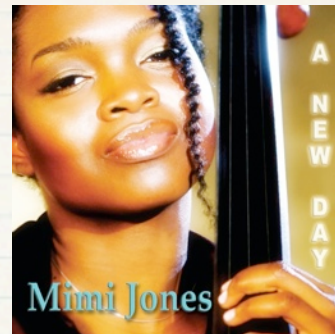
Overall the album is soothing and mellow with fore said influences infused on various selections. Memorable selections that creatively stand out are Fast Lane, Silva, Close Your Eyes, Sista and We Shall Overcome.

Credits include: Mimi Jones on acoustic and electronic bass and vocals, Marvin Sewell on guitar, Miki Hayama on keys, Ambrose Akinmisure on Trumpet, Marcus Gilmore on drums and Lucianna Padmore playing drums on tracks one and eleven.

"My music taps in directly to the senses using elements of jazz, folk, rock, blues and different sounds from around the world which have all had a profound effect on me."

Born in New York City from Caribbean parents, the Bronx raised musician is a graduate of Manhattan School of Music Conservatory. She also studied with world-renowned bassist Lisle Atkinson. It's a wonder with the rich musical background the many genres she relishes in on this debut album.

To date she has shared stage with Lionel Hampton, Rachel Z, Pauline Jean, and Joshua Redman to mention a few and she has toured extensively throughout Europe and the US. For more information on Mimi Jones, log on to www.mimijonemusic.com



SAMUEL ARCHER

Samuel Archer is a songwriter, musician (Keyboardist), music producer and poet. He lectures on songwriting, musicianship, music business and recording. He graduated from New York City Technical College with a liberal arts and science degree and is presently working on a Music Business degree at Full Sail University. Samuel also maintains an online poetic community on Face-Book and engages discussions on various topics.



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