

Euge Groove - Got 2 Be Groovin' (2014)

Written by bluesever

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01. *Forever and a Day* 02. *Got 2 Be Groovin'* 03. *Miss Bane* 04. *Rain Down On Me* 05. *Groovin' Up Hip Street* 06. *Tango In Tio* 07. *Homie Grown* 08. *Wildflower* 09. *Hey Hey Lil' Lilah Belle* 10. *In Love with You* Euge Groove (saxophon) Tracy Carter (keyboards) Cornelius Mims (bass) John "Jubu" Smith (guitar) Trevor Lawrence (drums) Lenny Castro (percussion) with guest spots from Peter White, Althea Rene, Paul Brown, Elliot Yamin, Chanel Haynes (vocals in 10)

Master groover Euge Groove is back with yet another sterling effort, *Got 2 Be Groovin'*, to be released next week and sure to find its way to "Chart Toppers Row."

With special Euge Groove CDI guests and friends like flutist Althea Rene, world renowned guitarists Paul Brown and Peter White, American Idol star vocalist Elliot Yamin (who's certainly beginning to make his rounds in the studios of our big names – he is also featured on the newly released Rick Braun CD *Can You Feel It*), and vocalist Chanel Haynes, the saxman pours out his distinctive style over tracks influenced by the likes of great ones like James Brown and The Blackbyrds – not to mention some special inspiration to dedicate one track, "Miss Bane," to his wife.

The CD drips cool all over the place beginning with the solidly convincing lead track "Forever And A Day," which is an acknowledgement of Shakespeare in Groove's special way. The track features flutist Rene and has a catchy saunter to its hook. It's followed by the totally nasty-funky title track aimed straight at the James Brown vibe with tight horns and the Hammond B3 tossed in the mix very effectively. Sweat-soaked energy personified.

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The previously mentioned “walk with me, talk with me” sensuous mid-tempo laid-back track “Miss Bane” had to meet with the approval of the saxman’s wife. Full of seduction and charm and a great hook, it’s loaded with the love message.

More of that solemnly sweet vibe awaits you in the gospel-tinged track “Rain Down On Me,” featuring the coolest Englishman in contemporary jazz, Peter White. Says Groove of the track, “I associate this song with God and it is about asking for a cleansing of the soul. “It is something I beg for from time to time.” The track can’t be described any better than that for it does grab you in a way as to indicate that something more than a slow, smooth, and tender groove is what the saxman was after. No, there is a strong call to and for something else. Cleansing of the soul is dead on.

More goodies are in store for you here, including “Groovin’ Up Hip Street,” the snappy up-tempo “Homie Grown” featuring guitarist/producer Brown, and the two flawless vocal offerings: One by Yamin (the striking cover of Skylark’s classic “Wildflower”) and the other, “In Love With You,” a powerful and beautiful slow-tempo Groove original which simply overflows with heartfelt soul from the mighty pipes of Haynes who, at certain points, reminds you of the ageless superstar Gladys Knight.

Like many of his artist friends, Groove has a hard time finding the words “failure” or “mediocrity” in his dictionary or vocabulary. This piece of art proves it again. ---Ronald Jackson, thesmoothjazzride.com

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