Maceo Parker & Fred Wesley - El-n-Gee Club (1994)



Maceo Parker stands among the legends of Funk, forging the first half of his stellar career as a sideman for the genre's forefathers James Brown and George Clinton. From being an essential voice in Brown's horn section to helping steer George Clinton and Parliament's Mothership Connection to platinum status, his soulful saxophone playing and vocals are part of funk music history. As a soloist and bandleader for the last two decades, he has brought his seminal sound to collaborations with Ray Charles, Ani Difranco, James Taylor, Dave Matthews Band, the Red Hot Chili Peppers, and Prince. In 2012, he received the Les Victoires du Jazz in Paris: a Lifetime Achievement Award for his contribution to music, as well as an Icon Award at the North Sea Jazz Festival. ---rcmf.org/jazz-world

Best known for his work with James Brown and the JBs, Fred Wesley has built his career in funk and jazz. From 1968 through 1975, Wesley was music director, arranger, trombonist and a primary composer for Brown's band, helping to create a funky sound that's heard in much of today's popular music. Wesley helped take the funk to a new level upon joining forces with George Clinton and Bootsy Collins in 1975.

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Written by bluesever Friday, 28 March 2014 17:15 -

In 1978 he joined the Count Basie Orchestra and realized his jazz aspirations for which he had studied as he grew up in Mobile Alabama. He released his first jazz CD as a leader, To Someone, in 1988. It was followed by New Friends in 1990, Comme Ci Comme Ca in 1991, the live CD Swing and Be Funky and Amalgamation in 1994. The latest CD, Full Circle (Be Bop to Hip Hop), was released in 1997 in Europe and in 1998 in the United States. --- trombone-usa.com

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