

still black, still proud

AN AFRICAN TRIBUTE TO JAMES BROWN

“By its title alone, *Still Black, Still Proud* not only honors James Brown, but references a specific aspect and time period in his multifaceted body of work. It recalls the political, even revolutionary Brown, whose music was a virtual soundtrack to the breakthrough of black consciousness in American culture.”

BOSTON GLOBE

“Pure soul satisfaction”

THE ARGUS

“Primally explosive Funk”

THE INDEPENDENT

“What made the show so special was the abundant collective energy emanating from these highly skilled purveyors of pleasure and the old theory of the whole being greater than the sum of its parts being true...A legacy that stretches back beyond the landmark of spirituals and gospel to Africa, vocally, rhythmically and harmonically-Funk has come full circle.”

BLUES & SOUL MAGAZINE

Discovering the points at which African and American music strike sparks off each other, Pee Wee Ellis and a host of stars including Maceo Parker, Vusi Mahlasela, and Vieux Farka Touré bring James Brown's revolutionary music full circle in this innovative, rhythm fueled tribute of Afro-Funk. As much as the music of Africa influenced Brown's style, he likewise inspired an entire generation of African artists. Brown's music was immensely popular, deeply felt and vastly influential in Africa; “Even in the deep bush, the villages, people knew about James Brown,” says Vieux Farka Touré.

Still Black, Still Proud celebrates Brown's lasting legacy while exploring the deep relationship between soul, Funk and modern African music. Pee Wee Ellis says, “Since the beat came from Africa, we wanted to bring it back by way of combining Funk with some African rhythms.” Artists from the U.S. and Africa join together in a show that *The Boston Globe* dubs, “a pancontinental Funk-soul supergroup,” and *All About Jazz* proclaims simply, “explosive.”



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