

# SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK



“This ensemble is the gold standard...their voices are all fabulous, and they unite to create a sound so pure, smooth and homogenous that it does not seem humanly possible.” FORT WORTH STAR TELEGRAM

Rooted in a deeply held commitment to create music out of the rich textures of African American legacy and traditions, Sweet Honey In The Rock possesses a stunning vocal prowess that captures the complex sounds of Blues, spirituals, traditional gospel hymns, rap, reggae, African chants, Hip Hop, ancient lullabies, and jazz improvisation. Sweet Honey's collective voice, occasionally accompanied by hand percussion instruments, produces a sound filled with soulful harmonies and intricate rhythms.

In the best and in the hardest of times, Sweet Honey In The Rock has come in song to communities across the United States, and around the world raising her voice in hope, love, justice, peace, and resistance. Sweet Honey invites her audiences to open their minds and hearts and think about who we are and how we treat each other, our fellow creatures who share this planet, and of course, the planet itself.

Sweet Honey's 20th CD release, *Experience...101* was a 2008 Grammy Award nominee. The excitement continued as Sweet Honey was asked to compose new material in celebration of the Alvin Ailey Dance Theater's 50th anniversary. Together, these two artistic treasures of the African American experience performed this once-in-a-lifetime collaboration throughout the United States. The music for the collaboration was released on a CD entitled *GO IN GRACE*.

In 2009, Sweet Honey was honored to accept an invitation from President and Mrs. Barack Obama to give a concert at the White House. 2010 saw the release of a single CD and video, *Are We A Nation?*, in response to Arizona Law SB-1070. That year also saw the debut of a tribute concert at Jazz At Lincoln Center - *REMEMBERING NINA, ODETTA AND MIRIAM*. The group has also developed a new collaborative symphonic orchestra piece, *Affirmations*, with noted composer William Banfield, set to premiere in 2012 with the National Symphony.



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