'92' The year the Well Started

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Viva Art Music

Presents

THE WELL

If you are...

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SO CHECK IT OUT !

The **WELL** is an oasis for all to enjoy both local and national **gospel** talent at its best. Due to popular demand the **WELL** will be an ongoing monthly event.

The **WELL's** resident artists includes Godfrey Gayle; Comedian & Compare Junior Simpson; Special guest appearance Lester Davis, **plus Special surprise guest. And much much more!**

Next Event: Saturday 30 th May 92
Venue: The Josiah Mason Theatre,
nr Birmingham Central Library.

TICKETS £5.00 INCL REFRESHMENTS!
All can draw from the **WELL!!** 7.30pm till late.
For further information Tel:021-235-4387.

'93' 2nd year keep going.

THE WELL

THE PEOPLES CHOICE
PRESENTS

A CHRISTMAS SPECIAL GOSPEL 'MIX'

ON
TUESDAY 28TH DECEMBER 1993
AT
BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL
VICTORIA SQUARE CITY CENTRE

FEATURING
THE WELL SINGERS - LEE GOSPEL CHOIR
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COMEDIAN AND

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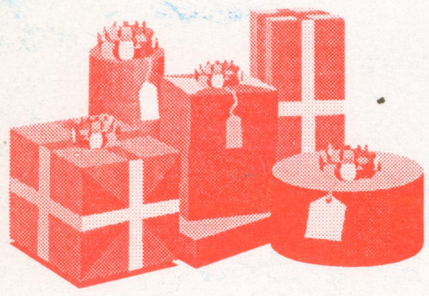

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93

THE WELL

THE PEOPLES CHOICE

THE MIDLANDS FOREMOST GOSPEL MUSIC
PRODUCTION AT

THE REX CENTRE

COVENTRY ROAD, SMALL HEATH, B'HAM

SATURDAY, 27th FEBRUARY

FEATURING

THE WELL SINGERS

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JUNIOR SIMPSON

Special Guest
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PETER FREMPONG

AND MUCH - MUCH MORE

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ALL CAN DRAW FROM THE WELL

DON'T MISS IT !

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM C.L.C.BOOKSHOP

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Presented in association with THE DRUM, a major centre dedicated to the artistic and cultural expression of African, Asian and Caribbean communities. THE DRUM, located in Newtown, will open in 1996; it has a commitment to the presentation and promotion of media, visual and performance arts. THE DRUM is supported by Birmingham City Council, West Midlands Arts and West Midlands Probation Service.

WEST MIDLANDS ARTS

Supported by **Birmingham City Council**

The Well – The Midland's foremost Gospel Music Production Presents from the U.S.A.

Jessy Dixon and Friends

+ support Pete Caulfield + Well Singers & Band

Friday 2nd June

At The Church of God of Prophecy
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Tickets are available from CLC Bookshop, Stephenson's Place, City Centre. Tel: 0121 643 6187. Doors Open 6.30pm.

★ Watch Out For **André Crouch** – Gospel Legend! 7th July ★

...cial

Five Alive

on Friday 30th December 1994 at the Town Hall, Victoria Square featuring: International Artist from Kenya *Five Alive*, Soul Stirrings *Dawn Thomas*, rap artist *The Watchman*, Birmingham's *Well Singers and Band*, *Little Chantel*, the excellent *Carla Hayles* comedy from *Junior Simpson* (Real McCoy), an... *...Palmer.*

...re £7.00 avail... ...Office 0121 236 2392
...Book Shop, ... 0121 643 6187
...the Go... ...at 7.30pm
...45.

'94' Getting Better.

THE WELL

The Midland's Premier Gospel Showcase

Hutchinson & Gayle • Little Chantel • The Well Singers • Clive Palmer • Andrew Pearce • Andrew Pearce • Hutchinson & Gayle • Little Chantel • The Well Singers • Clive Palmer • Andrew Pearce • Clive Palmer

3rd *Anniversary Show*

LIBRARY THEATRE, PARADISE SQUARE
near to Birmingham Central Library
ON SATURDAY 1ST APRIL

Don't Miss It!

IT'S BACK! – THE PEOPLE'S CHOICE

THE WELL

The Midlands Premier Gospel Showcase

FEATURING THE OUTSTANDING VOCALIST *Andrew Pearce* ■ RESIDENT BAND *The Well Singers* ■ THE AWARD WIN... *Ambassadors for Christ* ... *Clive Palmer*

Doors Open 6.45pm
Tickets £5 in advance
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...1ST APRIL

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23 dec

christmas gospel music mix

at The Mayfair Suite

Pallasades Birmingham

28th October

AT THE LIBRARY THEATRE BIRMING

gospel music

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barbara brooks

SHOWCASE presents

THE WELL '95

ROSE ANDERSON and FOUR REAL

+THE WELL SINGERS & BAND

Saturday 24th June

Library Theatre,

Doors open 6.45pm.

5 in advance

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BYRON K. ORME LTD AND THE WELL PRESENTS

SOUNDS OF BLACKNESS

at Birmingham Town Hall on Friday 19th May

TICKETS £12.50 / £15.00

BOX OFFICE: 0121 236 2392/3889

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WEST MIDLANDS ARTS

Supported by Birmingham City Council

'95'

1st open air festival!

Raising the heavens

Gospel in the City
Chamberlain Square

THE sun shone on a packed Chamberlain Square for the Midlands' Gospel Festival made up entirely from local home-grown groups.

The Remission Choir, from Walsall, featured their CD *Melody Of The Heart* written by leader Stephen McGregor and with crackling trumpet from Como-No hornman Chris Storr.

Soulful Delroy Hutchinson and Godfrey Gayle were worthy of a higher bill placing as their *King Of Glory* and Fred Hammond's *Unconditional* proved.

Former Nu Colours vocalist Carol Riley, designer attired, paid homage with *Bridge Over Troubled Water* to singer Hazel Watson whose recent death was mourned by the community.

The four Walsall girls received the biggest welcome for their own set, complete with *The Lord's Prayer* and *Yes I Will* showing the full force of their harmonies.

DAVID YEATS

Raising the roof

KEFAS,
Library Theatre, Birmingham

IT was a good weekend for gospel. Four Real showcased at Edgbaston's Fitness First on Friday with a seven song set of which their own *24/7* was a standout.

Saturday night brought KEFAS to a capacity Library Theatre. They're 30 Danish guys and gals under the direction of Albert Campos from Los Angeles.

The choir is the brainchild of pianist Peter Steinvig who formed the group 20 years ago to perform inspirational music in the authentic American style.

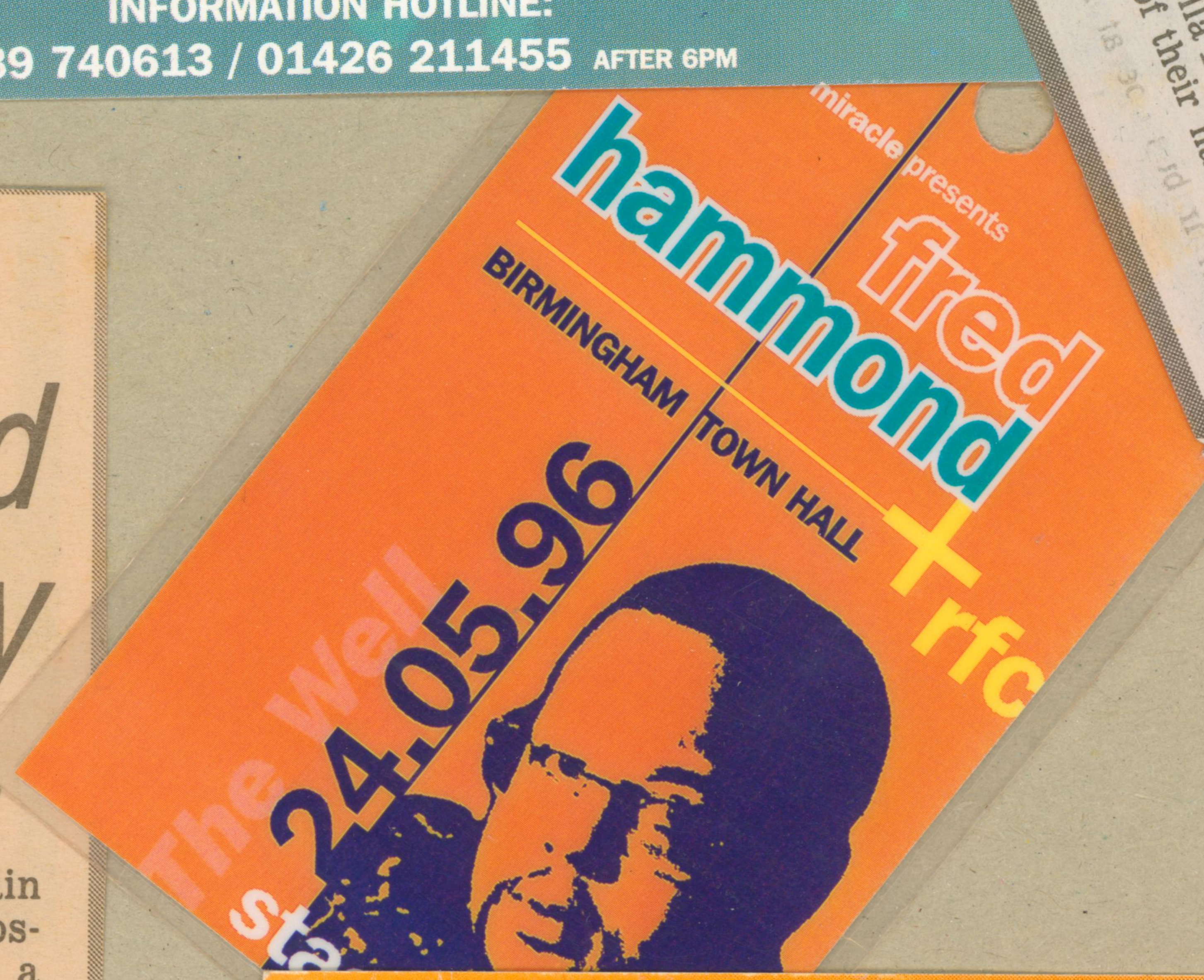
In Birmingham, the blonde singers and their rhythm section were appearing in front of an almost entirely black audience. The visitors were understandably apprehensive as Denmark has no gospel tradition and all their material is learned from imported records.

The opening set from Nechells prodigal Neville Forbes broke the ice and his falsetto on Kirk Franklin's *Conquerors* brought screams of approval.

KEFAS were uncanny in their replication of the genuine gospel sound. *I'm a Believer* sung by petite 19

'96' The Best year
2nd open air the Biggest!

'96' continued....



Perfect
rmony

NuJoi, Richmond House, Hockley
ERE'D been anticipation on the rcuit for NuJoi's three UK dates so it was a full house for the South Carolina girls.
Sisters Ericka and Tara Lorick are preacher's kids and it showed.
They kicked off with *Come Out Of The Rain*, slower than on the album, before *God Says Wait* gave Tonja Williams the chance the testify for chastity.
They shared lead vocals with the a cappella *I Tried* showing the full force of their harmonies.
DAVID YEATS

Mighty Hammond holds key

Fred Hammond and Radical For Christ, Town Hall, Birmingham

"WE didn't come to entertain you," announce American gospel star Fred Hammond to a capacity Town Hall, "We came to lead you in praise and worship."

A roar of approval greets *Unconditional* from his 1993 *Deliverance* album.

The mighty Hammond, built of Barry White proportions, has appeared here a number of times, first as a founder member of Committed then as a solo performer and now fronting the 11-strong choir Radical for Christ.

The evening begins with three numbers from Divine, four ladies from Walsall who've made their marks with Island's *Soul Stirring* album.

Proof that truly inspirational music can be found on our doorstep.

Radical's Kim Rutherford takes the floor to show why Hammond has chosen to produce her latest *Proclaim* album. She's in powerful voice.

Fred's presence as a preacher is concerned, as he holds the hall in thrall, with directing the group using dramatic flicks of a large white towel, the anthemic *We're Blessed* bringing everyone to their feet singing and clapping in praise of the Lord.

DAVID YEATS

'96' Still continued....

Peak Promotions Presents

KIRK FRANKLIN & THE FAMILY

LIVE IN CONCE

with guest m.c. Hezekiah Walker

plus support with Redeemed and UK Love Fellowship Crusade Choir

FREE 31 TRACK GOSPEL CD WITH EVERY TICKET includes £25 worth of vouchers

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in association with

Voice and Alliance Music

The Well

The Well and Peak Promotions present

kirk franklin + the family

UK TOUR 96

stagepass

Joyful music

Kirk Franklin & The Family
Symphony Hall

BIRMINGHAM has been blessed with a number of hot gospel concerts of late, from the Inspirational Fred Hammond to the disappointing Sounds Of Blackness.

Texan Kirk Franklin is the hottest contemporary name on the US circuit on the heels of his latest live album *Whatcha Lookin' 4*.

The UK Love Fellowship Crusade Choir opened the show — twenty-three singers drawn from all over the country led by Steven Denton. Andre Steele and Maria Carter dueted on *The Lord is With Us In This Place*.

To open Maria and Lorene Cato opened with *Redeemed* written by Lorene a song which Whitney Houston would die for — there were only eight singers in Kirk Franklin's family but what they lost in numbers they made up for in size. They were everything the Sounds Of Blackness should have been.

D YEATS

Gospel chorus fails to hit highs

The Sounds Of Blackness, Birmingham Town Hall

THE Sounds of Blackness are the acceptable face of gospel music.

Signed to a major label and in demand for sessions by the rich and famous, they've achieved an enviable cross-over.

But there were a number of important elements missing from their concert at the Town Hall.

Firstly, vocalist Ann Nesby was absent, having abandoned ship after releasing her acclaimed solo debut CD.

Secondly the group numbered only nine singers on stage, far fewer than I had been expecting.

Finally, and most important, a distinct absence of religious fervour found them spreading their message thin.

The four boys and five girls, backed by a slick ensemble of trumpet, keyboards, guitars and rhythm, showed off tunes for which they've provided the backing, notably Stevie Wonder's *Conversation Peace*.

An ill-advised tribute to 1960s soul found them in a *Stars In Their Eyes* salute to Sam and Dave, Otis Redding and Aretha Franklin.

After the inspirational performances of Fred Hammond and NuJoi earlier in the week, Sounds of Blackness were a disappointment.

I guess they just ain't a gospel group anymore.

DAVID YEATS

BYRON K. ORME LTD IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE WELL PRESENTS

THE SOUNDS OF BLACKNESS

+ local support

AT BIRMINGHAM TOWN HALL ON WEDNESDAY 3RD JULY

DOORS OPEN 7.00PM

TICKETS £13.50 / £16.00 BOX OFFICE: 0121 605 6666

AVAILABLE FROM USUAL OUTLETS

THE DRUM will be a major centre dedicated to the artistic and cultural expression of African, Asian and Caribbean communities. THE DRUM, located in Newtown, will open in 1997, but is already presenting a range of events and workshops in venues across the City. THE DRUM is supported by Birmingham City Council, West Midlands Arts and West Midlands Probation Service.

The Drum

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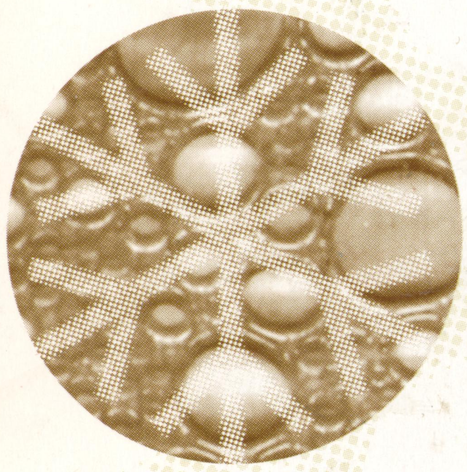
Presents



christmas gospel music mix

Saturday 28 December

The Centennial Centre Birmingham

THE WELL presents in association with THE DRUM

TASTE & SEE

the drum

5th Anniversary Gospel Showcase

PERFORMING LIVE
- Divine
- 4 Real
- Hutchinson & Gayle
- Freddie Koffie

SPECIAL GUEST APPEARANCE
- Wezley
- Nu Life
- Neville Forbes
- Priscilla Jones
- Maxine Richards

VIDEO FOOTAGE
- Nu Joi
- God Quest
- Fred Hammond R.F.C.
- The Well Singers
- Andrew Pearce

HOSTED BY
- Dulcie Dixon
  BBC Radio Leicester

COMEDIAN & COMPERE
- Clive Palmer

On the 5th April, the Adrian Boult, Birmingham City Centre, displayed a splendid array of gospel talent. From the South East to the Midlands, a packed audience watched a 'hot potch' of smooth vocal harmony and skillful range of instrumental backing. Congratulations going out to those who took part inclunding Hosanna, Vision, Basic, Unity Choir, 4 Real, Nu Life and New Creation.

A word about the two mass-choire that took part. Firstly Unity Choir electrified the audience with their energetic and dynamic with their dance co-ordination which many people would agree was most original. This is no doubt a reflection of the way choir members of 'Ministry of Faith' worship every week in their church in London.

As for New Creation cChoir (NCC), for their first public performance, this was a beautiful display of vocals that displayed a ray of styles from modern urban soul and traditional gospel. The NCC was officially formed this year and it is a choir which comprises of multi-denominational members particular from The New Testament Church of God and Seventh Day Adventist churches. Though based in Northampton, its members are from various cities and their minstry far as possible.

Keep up the good work Maxine. She like all those in musical ministry need all our support and prayers to ensure that the message of the gospel can be received far and wide.

THE WELL - 5 Golden Years

The Well who celebrates their 5th anniversary in May, is a household name in Gospel circles has reached a level unsurpassable by many music promoters. It started in 1992, pioneered by Beresford Dawkins and colleagues (who are no longer with The Well). It was basically built around the aspiration and visions he had at the time for the young people of his church - Church of God of Prophecy. He felt that whilst church was meeting their spiritual needs, there were other needs that were not being met by the church at that time. Now his church gives him full backing for a very successful organisation.

He felt the church had a lot more to offer in the community than just to remain isolated within the community. So to address this, he began to use the natural talents in the church and took them out into some of the theatres in Birmingham. As a result The Well refined the gospel scene and set out a platform for young talent to come and produce their gospel ministry to the wider community.

There has been a variety of artist performing with The Well since it started. They include a wide range of comedy, a range of features from local artists such as 'For Real' and 'Nu Life'. They have also managed to attract American and European artists from overseas, Including 'Sounds of Blackness' the Danish group 'Kefas'.

With his music ministry, he feels the responsibility to win souls for Christ but he felt that the traditional way wasn't sufficient and feels that God wants us to use all our skills and abilities to promote His glory. Beres not only has developed experience in providing spiritual needs, he has depth of experience dealing with adolescence aged 14 - 18 and being a manager of a young offenders department for Birmingham City Council for the past seven years.

The Well claims to offer people to experience the Christian lifestyle and to show that there is much fun and joy in serving the Lord. That is why 40% of their audience, they say are non-Christians. They aim to build on what they have achieved by employing people in the future, to contribute to the Well and develop their skills and talents within the music business. Also on the agenda, is the 'Well Complex' which will be a control centre for a number of co-ordinated activities. Beres admits that he didn't expect the Well to be so established as it has been, but they provide a simple message for those who has not yet experienced the Well. 'O Taste and See'.

Lloyd Richards

YOUR FAVORITE ARTISTS PERFORMING LIVE

SAT 24TH MAY

Special guest appearances

The Well Awards Ceremony, celebrating commitment to the progression of gospel music

Aftershow party for artists and friends

CD giveaways

For further information contact the drum on: 0121-693 3616

The Centennial Centre
100 Icknield Port Road, Edgbaston, Birmingham
Doors open: 7pm Show starts 8pm
Tickets £7 in advance. Available from CLC Bookshop: 0121 - 693 6187.
£9 on the door
Drum Box Office: 0121-685 4567

The Well presents

COMMISSIONE

LIVE IN CONCER

28 August 1997

Doors 6.30

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Presents from
THE UNITED STATES

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THURSDAY
22nd APRIL 7:30
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Plus Birminghams own
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Message of hope

Kirk Franklin
Civic Hall, Wolverhampton

KIRK Franklin is the charismatic young Christian rapper who is giving spiritual hope to a world of disenfranchised kids who don't know who their Daddys' are.

His hiphop message "there is another way. It's cool to dig Jesus," has made him America's biggest gospel star whose records sell in millions.

After delivering a knockout double whammy at Symphony Hall and Aston Villa Leisure Centre, Captain Kirk made it third time lucky for the region. He received a hero's welcome and was glad to be back.

"Of all the places I go," he told us, "I love the UK best". In private he's patient and sincere with a slight stammer, but on-stage he's ferocious preaching machine, like Tupac doing James Brown.

Battling with a troublesome sound system which plagued the opening groups, Franklin delivered old favourite like *Melodies From Heaven* backed by eleven exultant vocalists.

Before long the joyous audience took over, raising their voices to the rafters, leaving the stunned American standing in admiration, mouthing "wow!".

From Walsall, Steve McGregor's mighty Remission Choir unleashed the divine Tracey Riggan, giving the illustrious headliner a run for his money, while the alluring Nu Life - Stacey Anderson, Estella Ible, Maryanne Hepburn and Dionne Williams, from Yardley, Alum Rock and Smethwick - displayed genuine talent, getting happy with *Now I've Found You.*

DAVID YEATS

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THE WELL
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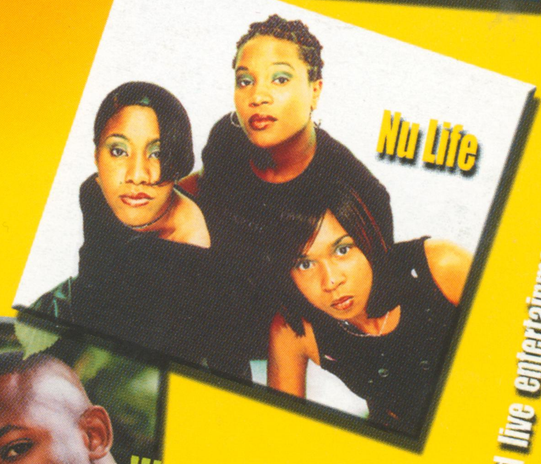
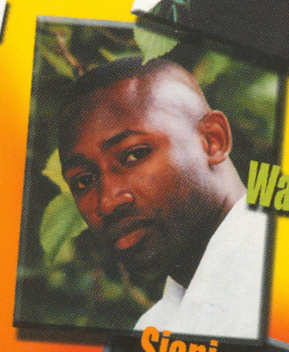
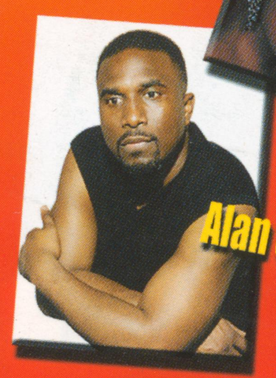
photo: Soultrader







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NING *Ambassadors for Christ*
■ HOSTED BY *Clive Palmer*

Library Theatre, Paradise Square near to Birmingham Central Library on Saturday 25th February – Don't Miss It!

Doors Open 6.45pm
Tickets £5 in advance from CLC Bookshop, Stephenson's Place, Birmingham.
Tel: 0121 643 6187.
£6 on the door.

Watch Out for Competitions and CD Giveaways

DON'T FORGET OUR 3RD ANNIVERSARY SHOW SATURDAY 1ST APRIL

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