

Written by Patricia Turnier

Tuesday, 02 October 2018 00:00



Johnny Britt wears myriad hats; he is a singer, songwriter, producer, trumpeter, arranger, pianist, educator and composer. Britt was born in the U.S. specifically in Louisville, Kentucky. Growing up in Cleveland, Ohio, he lived near Eddie Levert (of the O'Jays). So, he was surrounded by great talent and he was immersed very early in music especially in his uncle's church The House Of God where he commenced to sing at the age of 4 in the choir. Thus, his musical abilities were practically innate.

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In the 7th grade, Johnny Britt was part of the high school orchestra which Arsenio Hall also became a member of. The latter played the drums. After, Britt went to Cathedral Latin, a Catholic school in Ohio where he learned important skills such as discipline. Britt's professional journey began with a group called The Courageous Young Men. The group performed all over Cleveland and was well-received. Later, Johnny Britt studied in France where trumpet professor Roger Delmette was his mentor.

Johnny Britt's influences are mainly Sade, John Coltrane, Sly and the Family Stone, EWF, John Lennon, Steely Dan and Claude Debussy. In addition, Britt played with [Miles Davis](#), percussionist Mino Cinelu when he was studying in Paris. By going to France, he obtained a strong musical foundation which provided him a great leeway. Britt studied music in France at The Versailles Conservatory of Music where he perfected his trumpet skills with Roger Delmette, the Paris Opera's first ever trumpet player, as mentioned. While in Paris, Johnny Britt created a duo singing group with his sister Edna entitled Funk International. Furthermore, he signed his first recording contract in France with an independent record label.

After Paris, Britt went to Chicago and got a full-time music scholarship from Dr. Warrick Carter at Governors State University where he earned a BA in Music and won the Gerald Myrow Award for Outstanding Composer. While studying at the university, Britt wrote and recorded his first song entitled "Why Do You Treat Me Like You Do". He also did commercial jingle work as a chanteur and studio recording sessions for albums. Britt founded a music group entitled CA VA with vocalist Kay Reed. The group recorded four songs with Benjamin Wright at Conway Studios in LA. After receiving his music degree, Johnny Britt collaborated with Kool and The Gang in the Bahamas to record their platinum album Emergency that had great hits such as "Fresh" and "Cherish".

Mr. Britt was bold and daring during his youth. Once, after a show, he approached [Otis Williams](#)

from

[The Temptations](#)

backstage without an introduction and let him know that he had songs for the group. They had a meeting soon after and as they say, the rest is history. Chance comes when preparation meets opportunity and Johnny Britt was definitely ready when he encountered Otis Williams.

Later, Johnny Britt opened for [The Temptations](#) and he toured the world with them for three years. After the tour, Britt founded Impromptu in 1993. He was the lead singer and the group was signed by the legendary label [Motown](#) / M ojazz Records. Impromptu was created after auditioning 47

[rappers](#)

to find the right guy Britt quotes.

Imprompt2 went to #1 on the UK Soul Charts. The genre of Imprompt2 was mainly a blend of rap and jazz. Later, Kim Fields collaborated at some point with the group (Sean E. Mac and Johnny Britt) and she wrote about this great experience in her recent autobiography. She describes the group as a smooth jazz hip-hop duo. Their hot single “Mocha Soul” was released in 2002. The group appeared in one of the most popular African-American shows, *Soul Train*. In her memoir, Fields describes her role in the song as a fictional spoken-word poet. She did this with excellence. Imprompt2 recorded four albums. The group was nominated for a *SoulTracks Readers' Choice Award* and two of their albums were on the charts. Imprompt2 performed at the White House for President Bill Clinton and at the 1997 Olympic Games in Atlanta.

The Temptations mini-series became an Emmy Award-winning film. The movie (made in 1998) was based on Otis Williams' autobiography with the same title. In addition, the praised Suzanne de Passe co-produced the film which received an NAACP Image Award for Best Miniseries. It got six nominations for an Emmy Awards and obtained an Emmy for Best Director. It was also nominated for a Golden Globe and won the Producers Guild Award. The film was watched by 45 million viewers. Diana Ross' daughter, [Rhonda Ross](#) played the role of the wife of one the group's members, Paul Williams.

Mr. Britt became the youngest ever musical director of the above-mentioned group and co-musical producer of its mini-series *The Temptations* after his meeting with Otis Williams who co-founded his renowned group. This film was co-musically produced with Dan Carlin. This experience represented the opportunity of Britt's life. As mentioned, he had the privilege to tour the world with this legendary group. He also wrote on one of their platinum albums as well as producing and writing on others including the song “My Kind of Woman” featuring Ice-T. The group collaborated in a few of Britt's musical projects. Moreover, Johnny Britt musically co-produced the movie *Little Richard* (2000). Music is definitely one of Johnny Britt's greatest passions which started at a very young age.

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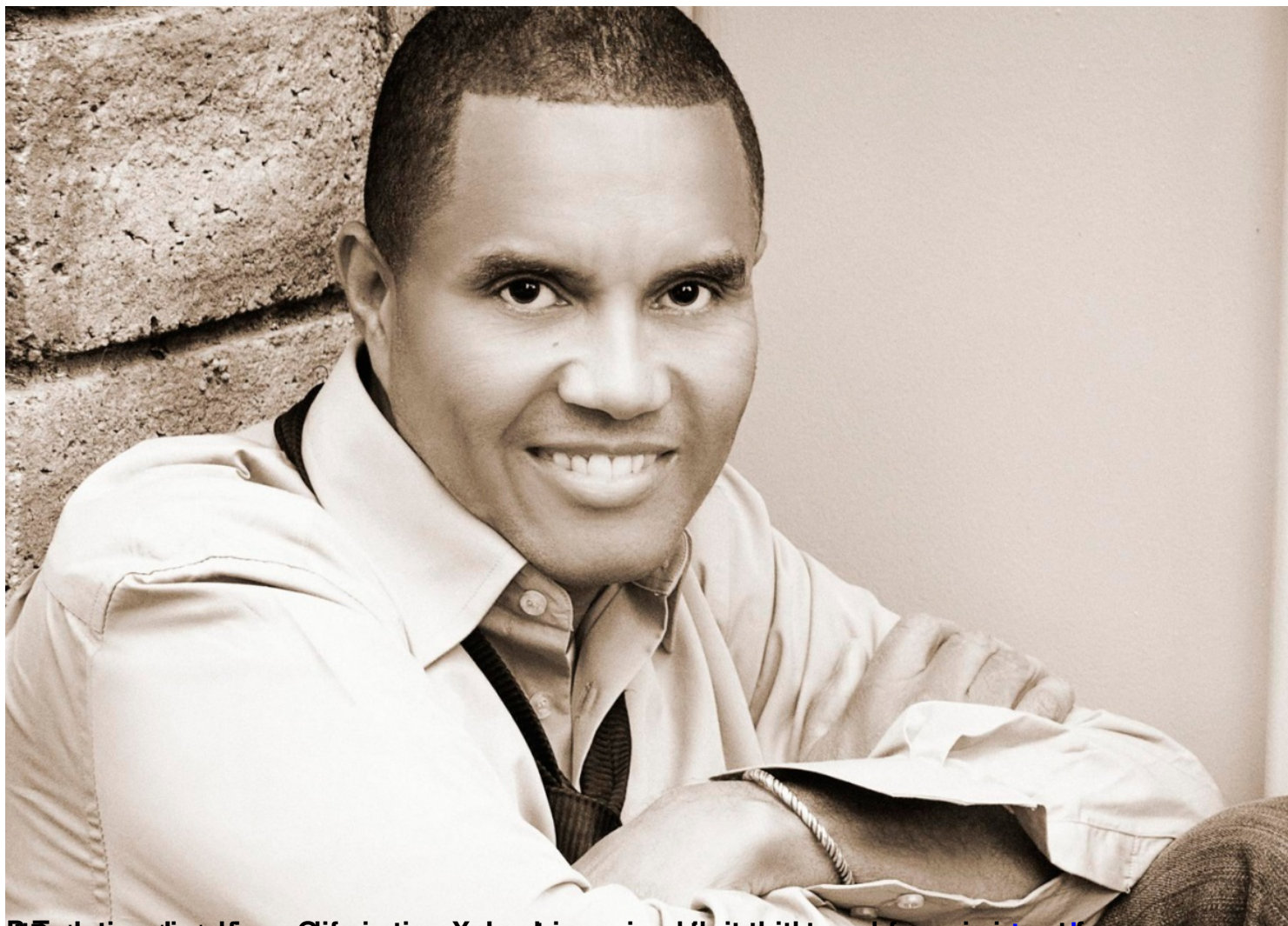


Johnny Britt is a multi-talented artist, composer, and producer. He has worked with some of the most famous names in the music industry, including Madonna, Michael Jackson, and Prince. Britt is also a successful entrepreneur, having founded his own record label and production company. He is currently working on a new album and is excited to share it with the world.

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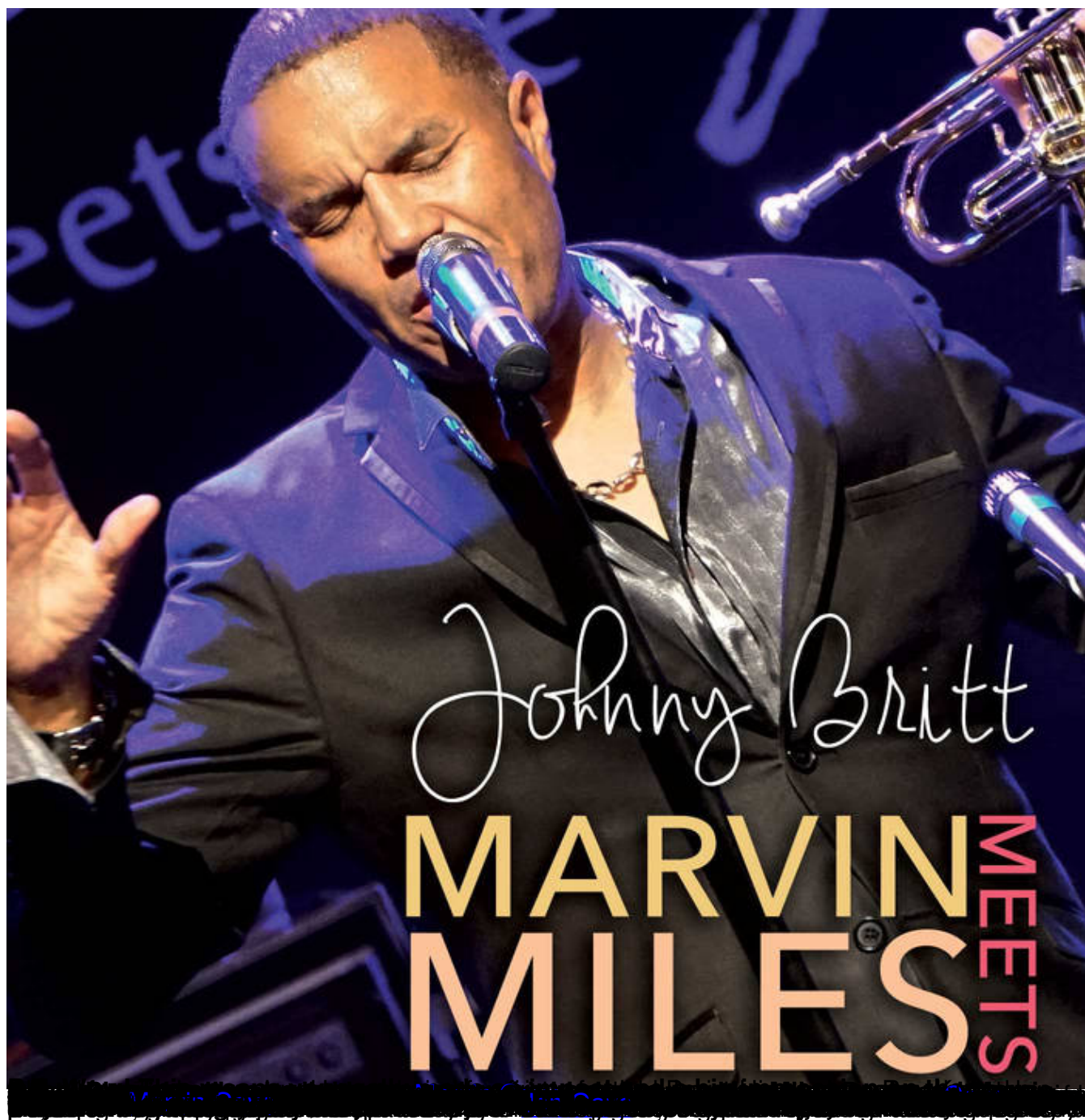
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Johnny Britt is a multi-talented artist, composer, and producer. He has a deep passion for music and a strong commitment to social justice. His work spans across various genres, including jazz, funk, and soul. He has collaborated with some of the most talented musicians in the industry and has produced several critically acclaimed albums. His music is not only a reflection of his own experiences but also a powerful statement on the struggles and triumphs of the Black community. He is a true pioneer in his field and a role model for aspiring artists.



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