



INTRODUCING

CARRIE LUCAS

A perfected cool and sensuous voice, dazzling self-designed choreography, and a carefully selected repertoire are all responsible for Carrie Lucas' fast-growing power and ever-increasing following.

A statuesque, sculptured beauty (she stands 5'9 in her stocking feet), Carrie not only captivates with her vogue-like appearance but, more importantly, tantalizes her audiences with her gusty, shake-the-foundation vocal renderings.

Having fully established a reputation as a tremendously talented vocalist-composer via her first albums for Solar Records, "Simply Carrie," "Street Corner Symphony," and Carrie Lucas "In Dance Land," she has once again demonstrated her ability to expand with the release of "Portrait of Carrie." This, her fourth solo project for Solar, manufactured and distributed by RCA Records, is by far her best collection -- featuring Carrie's vocal versatility on tunes such as "Fashion," "Just a Memory" and "Career Girl."

A native Californian, Carrie comes from a family rich in musical experience and attributes much of her early appreciation for all types of music to that environment. As long as she remembers, she always wanted to sing. She recalls, "I was extremely shy as a youngster...except when I sang. Somehow singing transformed my character. Admittedly, during those days, I never seriously thought of singing as a career. Yet, I was nonetheless extremely moved by Judy Garland and the whole aura she created as well as that of Barbra Streisand. Perhaps, subconsciously, the reason I joined every glee club and choral group around was to satisfy a yen to develop my aura."

Although Garland and Streisand are two among many artists Carrie admires, her style is uniquely Carrie. Possibly the resemblance lies in her sense of total showmanship, lust for life, and magical relationship with an audience. One has to experience Carrie's commanding vocal qualities and witness her classic elegance since both defy adequate description.

No stranger to hard work or the concert circuit, evidenced by successful tours with the Whispers, The O'Jays, Johnny "Guitar" Watson and a host of others, Carrie makes time amid her hectic schedule to pursue a variety of interests. As she explains, "I feel that I can be an effective artist only if I maintain a well-rounded routine including diverse activities. To some degree it is those seemingly unrelated pursuits that strengthen one's own definition and broadens the perspective." Leading the list, which balances her intellectual/creative undertakings (writing, painting, modeling), is her earnest passion for athletics, including tennis, swimming and even jogging.

Carrie singularly credits her career development to Dick Griffey, who helms Solar Records. In addition to producing her last four LPs, it was Griffey who convinced Carrie to cut her now famous first demo "Fairytale," (they really can come true). Carrie feels, "Solar is more than just another record label. It is a family with a distinct philosophy; one created by Dick and respected by all under the Solar umbrella."

As Griffey describes the "Solar philosophy," "Flash-in-the-pan singers are a dime a dozen. A true artist must endure the test of time, by demonstrating a vast reservoir of talent both in the studio and as a performer, thereby, increasing the overall quality of the product. Almost everyone, given enough money, can make a hit single but given enough talent -- only a few can become great artists; like CARRIE!"

WHISPERS AT PARAMOUNT

The Whispers cannot be tied to any single style of music and it is their versatility that keeps them ahead of other performers. Just prior to their current release, the group well established itself with hits including the smooth ballad "Lady" and the tightly meshed up-tempo cut "And The Beat Goes On," from their self-titled LP, "The Whispers," which was the first recording to obtain both gold and platinum status for the five-man aggregation thus far in their careers.

As Scotty, who with his twin brother, Walter, shares the lead tenor chores for the group, says, "We do a little bit of everything -- jazz, pop, funk. We haven't got any one style."



The Whispers and Carrie Lucas will be at the Paramount Theater Friday, June 28th, 8 p.m. Reserved seats \$9.50 and \$10.50.

Take five dynamite singers, blend them together in a unique vocal style, and who do you get? Well, if their names happen to be Wallace (Scotty) Scott, Walter Scott, Marcus Hutson, Leaveil Degree and Nicholas Caldwell, then you've got one of the hottest vocal groups -- the Whispers. They are heard in all their exciting majesty and sophisticated soul on their new Solar Records album, "Imagination" (manufactured and distributed by RCA Records -- BZL1-3578), meticulously produced by Dick Griffey with the Whispers.

While the Whispers have been on the music scene for years, this is by far one of the classy vocal quintet's finest albums to date, evidenced by such cuts as "Say You (Would Love for Me Too)," "I Can Make It Better" and the title tune "Imagination."

Providing their versatility is an important goal for the group's other members as well. "For us to really be the best," says Marcus, "We have to prove that we can get into all contemporary music. And as Nicholas comments about The Whispers' new Solar Records release, "The album is a good mixture of danceable R&B and ballads. A good way to describe it would be to say it's contemporary soul."

Whatever The Whispers' brand of music is called, they manage to combine it with excitingly choreographed dance routines that make The Whispers not only thrilling to hear, but a delight to watch.

Most of the group's choreography is done by Nicholas, who is also The Whispers' invaluable second tenor. Reared in Southern California, Nicholas got most of his basic vocal training from singing in glee clubs in high schools. "Getting a chance to do the choreography for the Whispers is really a fantastic experience," adds Nicholas. "Every member of the group can really dance well, including acrobatic and tap dancing."

Scotty also seems to feel that the group's practice of performing older-style tunes really helped the group's dancing. "When we first started together we did a lot of vaudeville tunes, like 'Me and My Shadow' and that's where I think we learned to tap dance."

Like Nicholas, the other members began singing in junior high school, including the last member to join the group, Leaveil. Before he ever started singing with The Whispers, Leaveil was, as he puts it, "One of their biggest fans. I always thought that the group was fantastic. I'm really proud to be a part of The Whispers." When he isn't singing, Leaveil can usually be found around an auto racetrack, either watching or driving one of his own race cars. "I'm a fanatic about cars," says Leaveil. "After singing, comes racing."

The Whispers were originally the brainchild of the twin brothers, Scotty and Walter. "We had an uncle whom we would always listen to," says Walter, "and he taught us a lot about harmonizing. That's where we learned that kind of singing." "That's another reason we're so versatile," says Scotty. "We've been exposed to many different singers. We always picked up whatever we could."

After Walter and Scotty got their act together, they met with Marcus and Nicholas, and decided to form a group. Thus, The Whispers was born.

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HERNDON TO EXAMINE LOCAL BLACKS CONCERNS

"Lifestyles," a 62 KGW public service program Sunday, June 21 will feature Ron Herndon, co-chairman of the Black United Front.

Herndon will discuss his childhood as well as his perspective on treatment of Portland's Black community since 1960 and the local media's representation of Black concerns.

Herndon also will feature recent developments in Portland's Black community and the future of local Black and white relations.



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