

RELIGION

The Portland Observer

The Winans

All Out. There can be no more apt description of The Winans' musical gifts. Giving their all, making it matter, taking it to the limit...the First Family of American music never does anything half-way.

All of which makes the title of the Grammy-winning group's electrifying new Qwest Records release so fitting. On All Out The Winans do what comes naturally, fashioning a sound that reaches past borders and boundaries, exceeding our expectations and creating, in the process, a whole new standard of excellence and sheer excitement.

Irresistible pop, streetwise soul, rap, rock and even country--on All Out, the brothers, Marvin, Carvin, Michael and Ronald, have put the pedal to the metal on a collection of original songs that mix their gospel message with some of the freshest music of their career. Simply put, on All Out, The Winans deliver.

Ablly assisting the brothers is an all-star line-up of A-list of producers and artists. Aside from Marvin and Carvin, All Out boasts production by the ultra-hot R. Kelly, Gerald Levert, Steve Buckingham, Michael J. Powell and Vincent Herbert. The Album



The Winans: (Left to right) Marvin, Carvin, Micheal, and Ronald

also includes a contribution by the legendary Johnny Mandel on the moving "He Said Go."

Equally impressive are the guest vocalists who grace some key tracks on All Out. Lalah Hathaway is featured on the cut, "It's Not Heaven," while Kenny

Loggins is heard on "Love Will Never Die." Country great Ricky Van Shelton lends his talents to "If He Doesn't Come Tonight" while family member BeBe Winans of BeBe & CeCe fame steps in for backing vocals on the above mentioned, "He Said Go."

The exuberant new single "Payday," featuring the above mentioned R. Kelley, All Out is the latest and greatest chapter in the unfolding saga of a group who never settles for anything less than the best.

Dedication, devotion, and de-

termination have, in fact, been cornerstones in The Winans' success story from the beginning. Born and raised in Detroit, Michigan, they served their musical apprenticeships in the local church. The groups' recording career began in 1981 with the album Introducing: The Winans, then, A Long Time Coming, and two years later by Tomorrow which garnered the first of an amazing four Grammys for the group.

Signed to Qwest Records in 1986, The Winans' major label debut, Let My People Go was another gospel Grammy winner, as was its follow-up, Decisions, which featured the track, "Ain't No Need To Worry," the first of the Winans' cross-over hits and their fourth Grammy-grabber. The brothers' sizzling live show was captured on the 1988 concert album, The Winans Live At Carnegie Hall, while a year later the group topped charts again with their version of "Lean On Me" from the hit film of the same name.

In 1990, The Winans took a giant step forward with Return, an album that expanded their gospel base with dazzling forays into pop, R&B and rap. The smash single, "It's Time" was part of a package

that included guest performances by Teddy Riley, Stevie Wonder and Kenny G.

A breakthrough album in every sense of the work, Return was followed by an extensive round of international touring, both as a group and as part of the historic 1992 Winans One family World Tour. With a concert itinerary that spanned the globe, the One Family World Tour brought together on stage all twelve members of the Winans clan, including Mom and Pop Winans, BeBe & CeCe Winans, Daniel, Angie and Debbie Winans and, of course, the brothers best known simply as The Winans.

It was in-between touring stints that the group began putting together new material for a follow-up to the smash Return. With a recording strategy that included recruiting the best producing and performing names on the scene, The Winans recorded tracks in various locales throughout 1992, bringing together an awesome inventory of top-notch talent.

The result is All Out, an album that defines all the essential ingredients of The Winans' winning sound: creativity, versatility and, above all, a commitment to excellence that never fades.

Taking The Cross Out Of The Church

by Mattie Ann Callier-Spears

In the world, man has standards that he has set for himself, and in these standards, man has, deliberately, forgotten to include God.

All that one has to do is to listen to the news on television and radio and read the newspapers and magazines. There--you will hear and see that man's standards, for life, have changed drastically. Such as: children divorcing their parents, separation of church and state, fraud, sex and violence among the brethren, homosexuality, drug laws, legally helping a person to commit suicide, sex in the schools among the teachers and students--and more.

One day I watched this documentary that found an entire city that was inhabited by homosexual women. They owned and/or headed many key companies and/or businesses. They were doctors, the teachers, the city board members, the lawyers, the storekeepers, your next door neighbor and pastor. They had their own church that performed marriages between the same sex (even though this is an

abomination before God). These women were fair of face--yet, some had altered their appearance to make themselves seem and look hard. There was open kissing in public places and restaurants and clubs.

There was a couple that had been married and they wanted children added to their union. For this phase of life, a man is needed. This couple chosen artificial insemination and a beautiful baby boy was born.

I said, "How ironic!"

The other women, of the two, said that she would then have her child using semen from the same donor so that the children would have like features and the same father.

I, personally, was perplexed by the entire scenario, because, if you are put-out with being a woman, why would you want to have a child?

My elders would say, "Sugah, you want to have your cake and eat it too. The best of both worlds."

One woman said that having a child was fulfilling the primary functions of a woman's body. Well? So is having a husband. Two women can-

not produce a child. Neither can two men.

The same God that wiped-out Sodom and Gomorrah is the same God that rules and super-rules--today. There was a purpose to God's creation of Adam and Eve so that propagation could take place. He did not create Sam and Steve or Anna and Eva--because his words, "Be fruitful and multiply..." would have all been a horrible joke. That's like telling a fish to go and hatch an elephant or telling a mouse to give birth to a grizzly bear. Everything has its order and its place.

The interviewer asked a woman, who seemed to be the wife of the couple, had she thought on how this unusual marriage may impact her child. Her response was, "I hope that he will love us as we will love him. And that he will not be ashamed of us." Then the question was asked, "What will you tell him when he asks about his father? And how do you think your different lifestyle will affect him when he enters school and his peers begin to ask questions?" She

lowered her head and her eyes before responding; and then, the women looked at each other as if they were searching for a common response. The female, who had the baby and had had a big baby shower which was attended by other women of the same mind, said, "We will tell him that we are his parents. We will give him much love, and--we can only hope and pray that he will be proud of us as parents."

I thought to myself, as I sat watching this program, "These people can't really think that God approves of this? They just can't!"

This reminded me of a true story from a pastor-friend. He said that a couple came to his office for counseling. The man was married and he and his family went to this pastor's church. They came to the pastor because they loved each other so much that they felt that God should bless them in their sinful acts. They even said that they hold hands and pray before having sex. Well! The pastor dismissed

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 Bible Study 9:30 am
 Morning Worship 10:45 am
 Men's Training Leadership 5:00 pm
 Women's Bible Class 6:00 pm
 Evening Worship 6:00 pm
 Attended nursery for all services
 Wednesday prayer meeting and Bible study 7:00 pm

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
 8101 N. Fiske Avenue • Portland Oregon 97203
 Church Phone: 289-0147 Study Phone: 289-1911

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Sunday School 9:30
Bible Study 6:00
Evening Service 7:00pm

Pastor, Rev. James C. E. Faulkner

Theme: Whatever your going to do for the Lore, **do it now.**
 I Peter IV.11

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 Y.P.W.W. - 7:00 p.M.

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