

Top 10 CDs



- 1 **Live at Luther College**
Dave Matthews & Tim Reynolds
- 2 **The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill** -Lauryn Hill
- 3 **Surfacing**
Sarah McLachlan
- 4 **Spirit** -Jewel
- 5 **UpUpUpUpUp**
Ani DiFranco
- 6 **Blues on the Bayou**
-B.B. King
- 7 **WWF**
-The Music, Vol. 3 Various artists
- 8 **The Best of 1980-1990**
(limited edition)
-U2
- 9 **Whitey Ford Sings the Blues** -
Everlast
- 10 **Wide Open Spaces**
-Dixie Chicks

SHAMIR

SHAMIR is a driving force behind the new urban music trend. Ugandan born singer/songwriter, Kimera Sengendo has successfully blended the styles of Hip Hop and Reggae to create his signature sound. SHAMIR easily moves between musical genres attracting audiences loyal to both. The band, SHAMIR, is based in Portland and consists of guitars, keyboards, drums set, percussion, alto and tenor sax, trombone and trumpet. Kimera's lead vocals and punctuated by a powerful strong, yet sweet entourage of both male and female vocalists. Most tunes in the SHAMIR repertoire are Kimera's original songs and arrangements. Kimera sings in both Swahili and English as he waves the stories of his life in song. His music combines the popular culture feel of Hip Hop and Reggae with the tradition of his Ugandan heritage. The results are an evening of entertainment suitable and appealing to audiences of all ages. The music is infectious, inspirational and compels everyone to move to their own

rhythm whether they are sitting in their chairs or standing on the dance floor. Kimera Sengendo considers himself a messenger of freedom, a title earned through years of struggle and flight from political oppression. Forced at an early age to fend for himself, he has learned the harsh lessons of the street and managed to wrap the positive messages of those lessons into the lyrics of his songs. After years of sacrifice, traveling many miles, through several countries, his family was granted political asylum in the USA. Kimera joined his school choir and immediately found that his voice captured people's attention. It was at this point that Kimera knew his message would be carried through music. SHAMIR has opened for internationally renowned bands such as Burning Spear, Shabba Ranks, The Itals, The Wailing Souls, among others. His music is energetic and memorable. After one night with SHAMIR you too will find yourself singing the songs of freedom.



Shamir

BC is about to take off on his first Solo flight, the name of his debut album and an adventure in its own right. The former lead singer for IV XAMPLE, the R&B group best known for the 1994 hit single, I'd Rather Be Alone, B.C. has spread his wings and crafted a richly layered, dynamic album which possesses a sophisticated musical vocabulary and broad sonic palette that belies the artist's age. From the soulful romantic ballad An Angel to the sexy, nocturnal groove of the first single, Why Oh Why to the unabashedly gorgeous I Promise, Solo takes the listener on a remarkable experiential journey, a journey that for B.C. started practically at birth. "My family is musically oriented," B.C., whose first name is Bobby, explains. "My dad and mom used to be in a band - my mom played the drums and my dad played the guitar and sang." But fate took a turn and his father lost his voice, giving way for the offspring to pick up the baton. Living in Los Angeles, the "entertainment capital," B.C. and his siblings (two brothers and four sisters) all discovered their own unique musical and artistic talents,

which each has since gone on to cultivate. "Clearly, I've always been around the music. It was just in my blood." B.C. shares. "My dad always said he knew he was going to have some sons who will sing." Indeed he did and Bobby was the kid whose voice propelled him into the limelight. "One day my dad was listening to us," he shares, "and my dad was listening to Marvin Gaye and I would be hitting the notes. He thought, 'man, this is my little singer right here.'" By the time he hit high school, Bobby's muse was in full swing. Kicking into gear as an aspiring rapper, he quickly began adding melodies to his rap hooks. "My dad kept telling me, you have a singing voice, you should sing," explains the artist who cites Babyface, Howard Hewett, R. Kelly, and The Artist Formerly Known As Prince as amongst his greatest influences. "I still fool around with rap, but it's just more romantic when you sing," he opines. "And since God did bless me with the vocals, I might as well use them." His voice, coupled with an entrepreneurial spirit, fueled B.C.'s early career. Still in school,

he made a tape which he titled High School Blues, packaged and marketed it. Handing out flyers to advertise, Bobby sold the entire initial run in his first and second period classes. "Teachers brought 'em and everything, so I had to get more. I eventually made a couple of grand," he proudly remembers. Upon graduating from high school, he got a job at Sam Goody. After hours, he spent his time working on material at his brother-in-law's preproduction studio and rehearsing with a band he had formed, a short-lived project which he gave up in order to join his brother's a capella group. That embryonic group, IV XAMPLE, not only showcased Bobby's inimitable voice, but provided a forum in which his innate flair for promotion again flourished.

"I try to write something people can relate to," B.C. offers. "If the melody's catchy, they might like that first, even before they start listening to the words, and then they think, the words are good, too..."

B.C. gets it. His voice is heaven-sent and the sky's the limit.

BC Biography



BC