

Sweet Honey In The Rock



Sweet Honey In The Rock, true to her name – soul-stirring, and rock solid continues her work of bringing a rich musical experience to her expanding audience communities. During the 1995-96 season, the internationally acclaimed singing group expanded her loyal following as she toured Europe, performed at the New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, and shared the stage with renowned poet

Gwendolyn Brooks at the National Black Arts Festival in Atlanta. Ms. Brooks and Sweet Honey received the 1996 National Black

Arts Festival Award for Distinguished Achievement.

Sweet Honey's May 1996 European tour included performances at the Vocal Chords Festival and the Bath International Festival, which was highlighted by her collaboration with Jamaican Dub poet Jean Binta Breeze. In addition to her collaborations with Breeze and Brooks, the ensemble also performed live with Sonia Sanchez, the pairing of Sanchez's dynamic poem "I Had Come Into the City" with Bernice Johnson Reagon's arrangement of the traditional church song "Stay On The Battlefield." This joining is one of the very important works on the group's 1995 recording, Sacred Ground, co-produced by Sweet Honey founder Bernice Johnson Reagon and daughter Toshi

Sweet Honey is a Grammy award-winning African American female a cappella ensemble with deep musical roots in the sacred music of the black church – spirituals, hymns, gospel – as well as jazz and blues. The Sweet Honey experience is like no other. Five African American women join their powerful voices, along with hand percussion instruments, to create a blend of lyrics, movement and narrative that variously relate history, point the finger at justice, encourage activism, and sing the praises of love. The music of Sweet Honey speaks out against oppression and exploitation of every kind. The quintet, whose words are simultaneously interpreted in uniquely expressive American Sign Language, demands a just and humane world for all.

Sweet Honey 25th Anniversary Tour Comes To The Civic

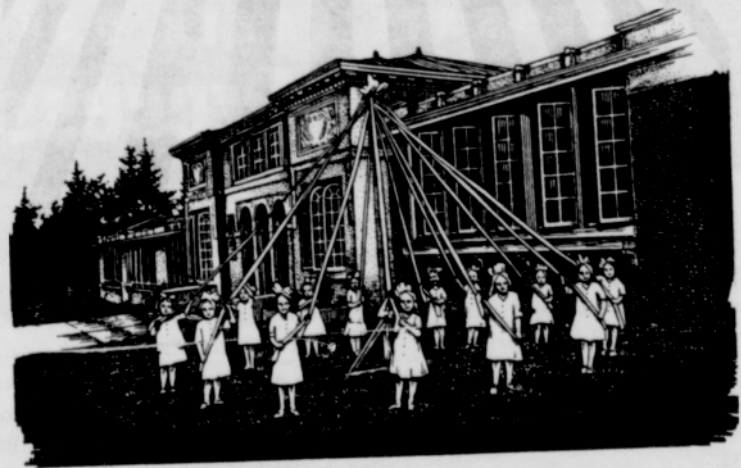
Grammy award-winning cultural icon, Sweet Honey In The Rock will be at the Civic Auditorium in Portland May 22 for an 8 PM appearance. Their 25th Anniversary Tour concert will feature their exhilarating mix of African, gospel, blues, jazz and traditional music. Sweet Honey sings passionately about justice, struggle, and love. Bonnie Raitt, who knows a thing or two about music says "The depth of where they're singing from, politically and personally, is just unmatched." Enthusiastic audiences have agreed worldwide as their popularity has soared in the last few years.

No two Sweet Honey concerts are ever the same as they don't work from a set list but instead, choose songs onstage to fit that night, that city, that audience. The group harbors a fondness for Portland based on their other appearances here and can be expected to give a moving, heartfelt, and joyous 25th Anniversary performance, their first here since '96.

Sweet Honey In The Rock, Civic Auditorium, 222 SW Clay, Portland 8 PM Saturday, May 22. Tickets: FASTIXX, BY PHONE 224-8499.

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