



Before we'd even completed our first demo for Blessid Union Of Souls, I was watching a rerun of M\*A\*S\*H," recalls Eliot Sloan, the band's vocalist, "and you know how Frank was always hitting on Hot Lips Hoolihan? Well, he was doing everything he could to get her into his bunk, saying stuff like 'I need you, Margaret, I can't stand for us to be apart.' Then he blurted out something like 'Be with me tonight, Margaret. I need to feel the blessed union of our souls or I'm going to break out in hives.' I was laughing," says Sloan, "but I was also thinking 'what a cool name for a band.' And that's where we got the name from."

Once the band settled on a name and secured a deal with SBK Records, Blessid Union soon released its first single, "I Believe." With a little luck, "I Believe" went to #1 and was the 4<sup>th</sup> most played song of 1995. "Let Me Be The One" followed, pushing the band's debut album HOME to Platinum status. Blessid's sophomore album which included the hit songs "I Wanna Be There" and "Light In Your Eyes" also fared surprisingly well at 400,000 units - considering that EMI Records closed their doors just five weeks after the album hit the streets.

The five-man band from Cincinnati who has survived the nail-biting trauma of the record label shuffle, being shifted from SBK to EMI and then on to Capitol, is now gearing up for their newly released album WALKING OFF THE BUZZ on Push/V2 Records. This project aptly showcases the band's range of talent and appeal and is certain to prove that this time, three really is a charm.

Fans of the traditional Blessid

Union ballad will find their heart content by another one of the album's standouts, "Standing At The Edge Of The Earth." "Standing" came about when the band was contacted by people who needed a title track for the movie ARMAGEDDON. The band went to work on "Standing At The Edge Of The Earth" immediately, but before they could even submit the demo, word came down that the Aerosmith tune had been chosen for the movie. It was disappointment," admits Sloan, "especially when our song fit so well and ARMAGEDDON turned out to be such an awesome movie. But the situation pushed us to write we would never have written, so it worked out anyway."

"I know it's show business," says Jeff Pence, lead guitarist, "and I guess we should make it sound more dramatic or romantic. But Blessid Union is just a rootsy, midwestern band. We know what we want to do. We want to keep playing rock'n'roll to work hard. So that's just what we're going to do."



The SOS Band was originally founded at the end of the 70's with eight members using the name 'Santa Monica'. A relative introduced them to the TABU record label, which was interested but changed the band's name to S.O.S., 'Sounds Of Success'. During the next 10 years their association with such notables as Cherrell, Alexander O'Neal, Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis, Leon Silvers and others

resulted in a string of hits like 'Take your time (Do it right)', 'S.O.S.', 'Tell me if you still care' and 'Just Be Good to me'.



Born in Los Angeles and raised in Detroit, Michigan, Cherrell began her professional career as a back-up singer for Michael Henderson. She struck out on her own in a big way with the Jimmy-Jam & Terry Lewis produced debut album 'Fragile'. Her second album, 'High Priority' produced top-ten hits 'You Look Good to Me', 'Where Do I Run To' and 'Saturday Love' which peaked at number one. She followed this with hit singles 'Affair' and 'Everything I Miss at Home'. While at the pinnacle of her career her musical producer/director was tragically killed, causing Cherrell to take a hiatus from the music scene to reflect and renew her spirit.



Midnight Star was formed at Kentucky State University in 1976 as a self-contained party band in the P-Funk, Earth, Wind & Fire mode, and quickly earned a strong reputation throughout the world for live performances. A 1978 showcase in N.Y. City got them signed to Solar Records and they proceeded to put out a string of successful albums, capped by the certified-double-platinum-plus release 'No Parking on the Dance Floor'.

They followed with such classics as 'Wet my Whistle', 'Freak-a-Zoid', 'Slow Jam', 'Operator' and 'Midas Touch'. In 1988, 12 years after they began, Midnight Star again reached #1 on the charts with the hit 'Don't Rock The Boat'.

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