December 17, 2003

#### The Portland Observer\_\_\_\_\_

# Focus



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### **Soul Celebration Release Due**

Historic concert in stores for Black History Month



Soul Comes Home, a Celebra- Memphis, TN tion of Stax Records and Mem-

This special DVD and CD feaphis Soul Music - captures the tures some of soul music's bigonce-in-a-lifetime concert held on gest stars performing their great-April 30 to commemorate the est hits at the historic Orpheum grand opening of the Stax Mu- Theater. Set for a Feb. 3 release, seum of American Soul Music in Soul Comes Home offers a great

Issac Hayes performs a dramatic version of his Oscar and Grammy winning hit 'Theme from Shaft' in the PBS production of Soul Comes Home recorded for the grand opening of the Stax Museum of American Soul Music in Memphis, Tenn. PHOTO BY ANDREA ZUCKER

> Solomon Burke, known as the 'King of Rock and Soul' performs during the Soul Comes Home broadcast on PBS.

way to celebrate Black History ion CD includes all of the musical Month

formances seen in the PBS spe- Dream of Freedom. cial as well as a bonus track feaperforming "Soul Finger."

The DVD also includes special documentary features about the Museum's exhibits explore the Stax Museum, Isaac Hayes, Otis roots of soul, profile its signifi-Redding, Booker T. & The MGs cant practitioners, and examine and The Bar-Kays. The compan- its enduring presence in society.

turing the Bar-Kays and Chuck D Soul Music preserves, promotes and interprets soul music recorded in the 1960s and '70s. The



## **TV Special Honors** 'Godfather of Soul'

(AP) - The Kennedy Center - usually home to opera, symphony and theater - got on the good foot last week as stars from the R&B charts paid tribute to "Godfather of Soul" James Brown.

The Kennedy Center Honors will be broadcast on CBS Dec. 26.

Rapper LL Cool J said Brown "broke down mental and social barriers and made it possible for me, a black kid from Queens, to stand in front of presidents and say, 'Say it loud, I'm black and I'm proud."

performances on the DVD plus Soul Comes Home aired on liner notes by noted Soul music many PBS stations across the authority Peter Guralnick, author nation in August. The DVD of the of "Sweet Soul Music: Rhythm concert includes all 16 of the per- and Blues and The Southern The Stax Museum of American

Younger R&B stars covered some of Brown's hits, with Anastacia performing "Sex Machine," Joss Stone singing "It's a Man's Man's Morld" and Brian McKnight tackling "Papa's Got a Brand New Bag."



James Brown

#### **Ex-Ronette 'Devastated' Over Spector Case**

(AP) — Ronnie Spector Greenfield, who with her sister and cousin made up the black 1960s girl group the Ronettes, was "devastated" when ex-husband and record producer Phil Spector was charged with murder in California.

"I had never seen him violent like that, with a gun or anything." Greenfield said. "I feel awful."

Greenfield, now 60, acknowledged that Spector often threatened her while they were married, from 1968-74, and after they divorced. She said he warned her he would send a hit man after her but was never violent himself.

Spector, 63, is charged in the Feb. 3 shooting death of actress Lana Clarkson in his hilltop mansion in Alhambra, Calif. He suggested that Clarkson, 40, may have



Ronnie Spector Greenfield

shot herself.

Greenfield said she hadn't con-

tacted Spector. "I really wanted to stay out of it," she said. "I think we'll always be friends because we have children together. I think it best if I don't talk to him now."

Her comments came outside a court hearing in New York where negotiations were underway to settle a lawsuit against Spector that would give the Ronettes \$890,000 owed for recordings but not for royalties for uses that include advertising and movies.

The Ronettes' lawyer, Alexander Peltz, says the women are due at least \$1.5 million. The difference between the sums required a hearing before a judge who will do her own calculation of what the women are owed.



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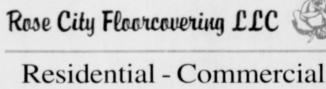


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