

ENCORE

entertainment magazine

Todd DULANEY

Your Great Name

Encore "LIVE" *presents*

Israel HOUGHTON

Keyondra LOCKETT

Jonathan NELSON

Maranda CURTIS

Patrice Gopo

All The Colors We Will See

THE
REVIVAL
#RAWGATHERING

Gayla James

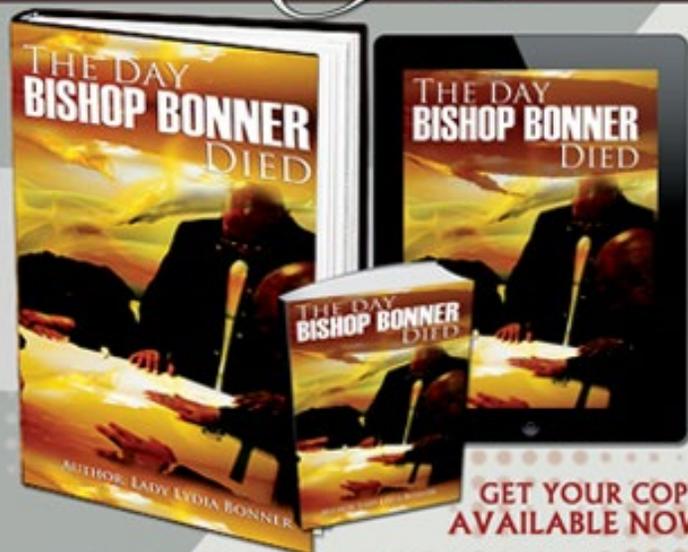
CL Carr



Sonny Dumarsais



Lady Lydia Bonner



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The granddaughter of Chief Apostle William L. Bonner and the eldest child of his only son, William L. Bonner Jr., has vowed to continue the Vision of our beloved Father and Shepherd by spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the World. Sharing the hallmarks of his Legacy: Prayer, Fasting, and unmovable Faith in Jesus Christ.

During Bishop's transition, my book was birthed titled, "The Day Bishop Bonner Died." This book is filled with Drama, Laughter, Tears and Anger. It portrays how even in church the threat of Dishonesty and Betrayal exists. This book is so amazing to read. **Free Downloads** and **Hard Copies** are available on the website.

www.bishopbonnerministries.org

Radio Shows

Can be heard globally on www.beach1017.com
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Email Lady Lydia

voiceofthehamptons@gmail.com

Bishop Bonner Ministries

Scripture Reading

Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

- *Philippians 1:6*



...the Levites...
...the Passover...
...the common people...
...the priests...
...the Levites...
...the sons of Aaron...
...the sons of Asaph...
...the gatekeepers...
...the Levites...
...the Passover...
...the holocausts...
...the LORD...
...the Israelites...
...the Unleavened Bread...
...the Passover...
...the prophet Samuel...
...the priests and Levites...
...the inhabitants of Jerusalem...
...the eighteenth year of Josiah's reign...
...this Passover was observed.

1* The people
son of Josiah, and
lem in his father's

IV: END OF THE REIGN OF JEHOSHAPHAT

Jehoahaz. 2 Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he became king, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem. 3 The king of Egypt deposed him in Jerusalem and carried the land one hundred talents of silver from a talent of gold. 4 Then the king of Egypt made his brother Eliakim king over Judah and Jerusalem, and changed his name to Jehoiakim. Neco took his brother Jehoahaz away and brought him to Egypt.

6 Num 7: 1-83
13 Num 12: 81
147 1 Reg 25: 221
25 18: 531

26 26: 2
36 1:4 1:2
1:2 2:2
1:2 2:2
1:2 2:2

26 26: 2
36 1:4 1:2
1:2 2:2
1:2 2:2
1:2 2:2

The Intro

I want to first as always give honor to God for allowing me to do another issue. This year has truly been full of God's blessings. In the beginning of the year I had a very clear vision pertaining to our production content (more on that later) that put things on hold as far as the magazine goes, but by the grace of God, I am grateful to produce our first issue of 2018. It's been delayed but not denied and I promise you, it's worth the wait. In this issue: Special features and content of the Award-Winning series Encore "LIVE". Interviews with Maranda Curtis, Alicia M. Bailey, Evangelist Danielle Williams-McCord, Keith "Wonderboy" Johnson, Wayne Ellington, Shwayze, Dawn Halfkenny, Steven Malcolm, Anthony Evans, Ray and Vivian Chew, and our feature cover stories Todd Dulaney and Jonathan McReynolds. In addition to our awesome interviews stay tuned for season 2 of our podcast!



David M. Wallace

ENCORE
entertainment magazine

Season 2
Coming Soon



Created & Designed by David M. Wallace

SPECIAL THANKS

I would like to give special recognition to those who contributed to this issue:

Jojo Pada - Ignition PR, Shawn Gibbs - The FIRM Artist Management,
Monifa Brown - Shanachie Entertainment, Ivan Thomas - Intrigue Media Group,
Christopher McDonald - Jameribritmanagement, Linda Klosterman - TKO Marketing,
Deanna M. Wallace - Your Modern Day Ruth

The official personal website of the award-winning
Director, Writer, Producer, David M. Wallace.

David M. Wallace



ENCORE
entertainment studio



visit www.totalprayze.com/davidmwallace

Create the Future



IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Encore Entertainment Magazine is proud to launch its new "In The Spotlight" artist feature. In our continuing efforts to develop an "immersive & innovative platform," for Gospel & Christian music artists, we have reinvented this feature. The Encore brand's vision is to be the premier Gospel & Christian music destination with new tools, resources and platforms designed to create an environment for discovery & exposure for emerging and established artists.

This is the new direction of Encore Entertainment Magazine's "In The Spotlight" artist feature. All artists that want to take advantage of this new opportunity can contact us at dve@totalprayze.com

Price: \$250

GAYLA James

Urban Christian Recording Artist

Featured Artist

IN THE

SPOTLIGHT

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"I'm Gonna Make You Dance!"

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RADIO**

 **TIDAL** 

enter The Spotlight »



CL Carr

Gospel Music Artist/Songwriter/Producer

New Single & Remix
From The Upcoming
T.Y.T Project

Where Are U?
AVAILABLE NOW

Featured Artist

IN THE

SPOTLIGHT

enter The Spotlight »

SONNY DUMARSAIS

Musician/Songwriter

“Pick Up #TheCall”

AVAILABLE NOW

Featured Artist

IN THE

SPOTLIGHT

enter The Spotlight »



THE REVIVAL

#RAWGATHERING



THE REVIVAL

#RAWGATHERING

Under the leadership of Dr. Aretha Wilson, R.A.W. GATHERING2K18 featured many prominent keynote speakers such as Bishop Neil C. Ellis, Bishop Noel Jones, Bishop Jacqueline McCullough, Pastor Kimberly Ray-Gavin, and more!

This has been my third year at R.A.W., so I'm proud to share my experience. I go to many concerts, conferences, revivals, etc... my objective is not just to cover an event but I try to capture the essence of it. There's a church around every corner and a conference every week with some clever acronym. So, how do you know it's effective or it's been worth your time? As Christians, we get so caught up in the routine of church, I know we talk about not having church as usual, but that's become more of a catchphrase. But, I can say Dr. Wilson and her team, hold a effective conference that provides a wealth of powerful preaching, teaching and music for all attendees. For an event to be effective and fulfill its purpose, it has to be more than just the "dancing & shouting". The R.A.W. conference is definitely more than that. There were compelling stories of miraculous healings and thought-provoking sermons that were designed to challenge you. If after you leave an event and your compelled to make life changes, then you know it was worth it. If you missed R.A.W., "The Revival" or if you have never been to one, make sure you catch 2019's conference. I'm not part of the ministry, so my take is truly unbiased, if you need some direction in your life, a refreshing, or a revival be a part of the R.A.W. experience.

David M. Wallace



ABOUT R.A.W.

R.A.W. (Remnant Affecting the World for God's Glory) is a faith-based nonprofit organization founded by Dr. Aretha Wilson, whose sole mission is to equip, empower and develop individuals to reach their fullest potential both spiritually and naturally. For over 23 years, Dr. Aretha Wilson has hosted the RAW International Gathering which is a multi-faceted, multi-cultural annual conference, where thousands of individuals of all ages gather daily to participate in an intense time of empowerment through holistic teaching, preaching and training seminars.

R.A.W. International Gathering is known for featuring renowned leaders such as Pastor Benny Hinn, Bishop Neil C. Ellis, Perry Stone, Bishop Jacqueline McCullough, Pastor Sheryl Brady and others. Countless lives of pastors, leaders, men, women and youth have been transformed and enlightened through this conference which has had an influence that reaches beyond the walls of the church, having a worldwide impact. For more information visit www.drarethawilson.com.



ENCORE LIVE

Encore "Live" the Award-Winning series from creator David M. Wallace is an expansion and result of the extraordinary growth of this digital franchise that started with Mr. Wallace's vision to turn the magazine's features into TV and web content. Based on the popular digital publication, Encore Entertainment Magazine, the online series is a hybrid concert, interview and news show. Featuring exclusive music content with artists that have appeared in the magazine, Encore "Live" captures intimate interviews with artists and features some of the top names in Christian and Gospel music sharing their most memorable 'Live' moments. Unforgettable live performances & fascinating stories all come together for a unique interactive music experience. In addition, the series highlights music videos & select performances from several concerts, conferences and listening parties showcasing the top Gospel and Christian artists of the day. Encore "LIVE" is produced by Encore Entertainment Studio, the production unit of Total Prayze Entertainment Group. Visit the site at <http://www.totalprayze.com/encorelive>





Jonathan Nelson
LIVE Interview



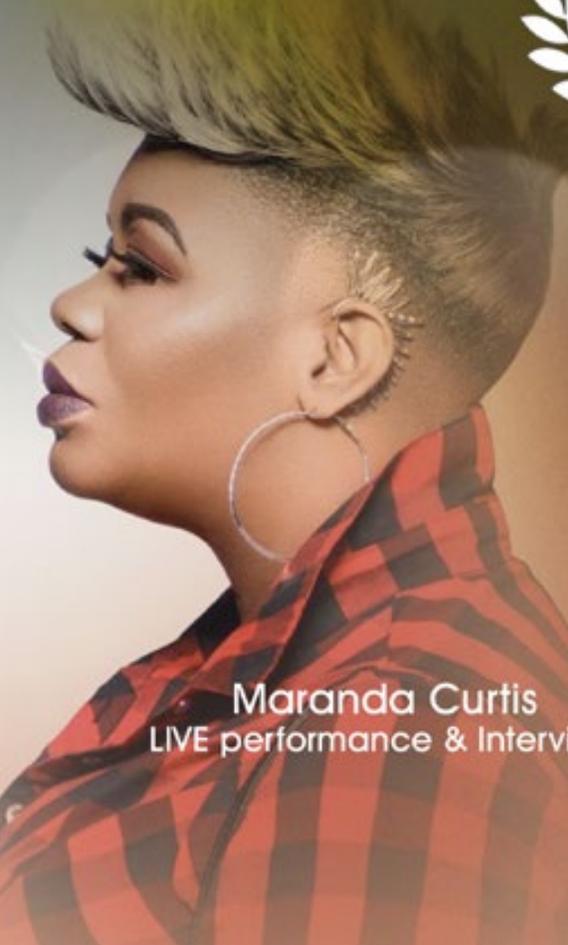
Israel Houghton
LIVE performance



A David M. Wallace Vision

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WATCH THE VIDEOS



Maranda Curtis
LIVE performance & Interview



Keyondra Lockett
LIVE Interview



TODD DULANEY
YOUR *Great* NAME





“
**I’m very precise
about who I am
and what sound
I need to produce.**”

Interview & all photos by David M. Wallace

Encore: "Your Great Name" is your third album, talk to us about the journey from the first one to now.

Todd: I was so uncertain of who I was with the first album, my next record, "A Worshipper's Heart", I had a better idea. I really was like, "I am a worshipper and this is the sound I need to produce." With this new record, I'm positive that I'm here with a purpose. The purpose is to create an atmosphere where God dwells, so this record is probably my most powerful, because I'm very precise about who I am and what sound I need to produce.

Encore: The single "Your Great Name", is captivating Gospel music fans from all over, talk about your vision with that song.

Todd: "Your Great Name", is a song we wanted not only worshippers to listen to but that musicians would also enjoy playing as they worship. We wanted to give it something energetic, so bands could say, "Man we really like this worship song." A lot of times in worship music it feels like the musicians get disconnected, because it feels like the music is not challenging enough for them. We wanted to produce a song that maintained the same power as worship music, so it was a balance of keeping it simple while really challenging and chanting that there's no greater name than Jesus Christ.

Encore: You are one of the Gospel artists who connect with the millennials, talk about the significance of that connection.

Todd: One of the greatest things about the millennial people, I think is that they recognize real and they recognize authentic. That's why I'm an open book and conduct myself the way I do. I'm very intentional about letting people see my scars and see where I've fallen, because I believe millennials want to be authentic. They want to know it's something real and

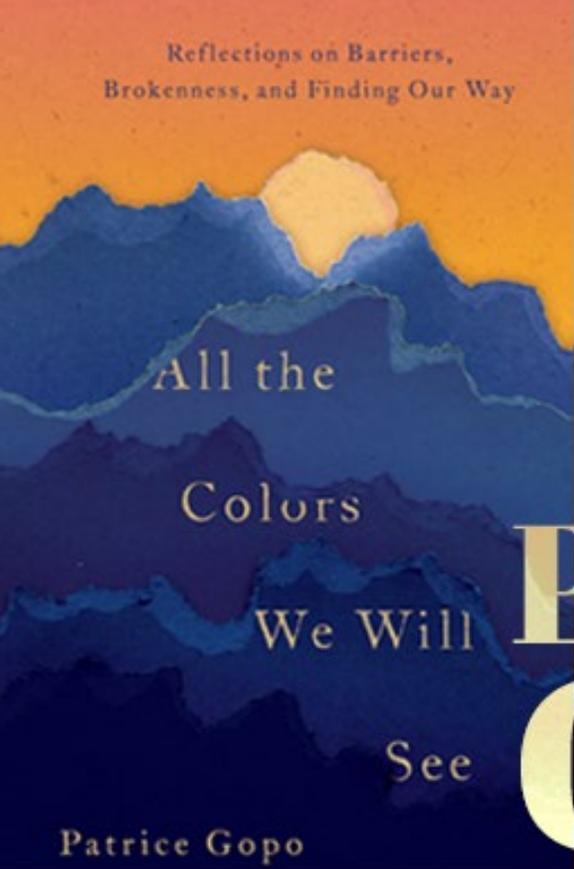
something they can touch. I'm proud that myself, Travis Greene and Jonathan McReynolds are able to reach the millennials, they don't just assume, but they see ripped jeans, they see freedom and it looks good.

Encore: Talk to us about the importance of having a mentor when involved in ministry.

Todd: I think without a doubt it's always essential that you find somebody and really gleam from them. Find somebody that you look up to, get close to them, love on them and serve with them, so you can learn what it's like to be in their shoes one day. Even the places where they fall, so you don't fall at those same spots, because you're actually learning from them. So, with me I got a chance to really be close with Pastor Smokie Norful and really carry bags for him, serve alongside him, so that I could learn and really just be able to when it was my time stand up and say, "Okay cool, I saw him do this, so it's not a surprise to me." It's one of the best things you could do, get close to somebody that is where you want to end up.

Encore: Give the aspiring songwriter some tips for effective and powerful songwriting.

Todd: The message should be at the forefront for songwriters in Gospel music. I don't believe that you should center a song around the music itself. A lot of people fall in love with the music changes, but the message has to be strong and also the melody has to be strong. If you got a strong message and strong melody then I think that you can win big, that's the recipe for success. Also, I believe that knowing scripture is a plus because for one thing there's a lot of things that are going to fade away, but the scripture and the power of God is going to last and outweigh everything. I think if you know scripture, have a great melody and the message on display, then those three things will help you write great songs.



Interview by David M. Wallace

Patrice GOPO



Encore: Your new book "All the Colors We Will See" covers the important topic of race, tell us how it all came about.

Patrice: It came from the perspective of being the black daughter from Jamaican immigrants who were born and raised in Alaska. The book really deals with what it means to grow up as a black woman in society where we're very intent on classifying people and defining experiences based on skin color. I examine what does it mean to be black in America when your family's story may not fit the narrow narrative. I was just trying to examine what it means when you might look like one thing, but you might not always feel like you belong in certain spaces and what happens when you grow up in a predominantly white community, how do you figure out where your place is in that community? So, those are some of the things I cover in the book, this idea of identity formation and figuring out where somebody belongs in society.

Encore: Talk about the power of being able to tell stories people can relate to.

Patrice: Writing the book was a journey to self and just being aware of who I am. I think there's something about the power of owning and affirming our stories, it's my hope that this book will do this for people. I hope it'll give them an example that people actually are living lives like this all the time and these stories matter and count. Don't try to make yourself more like the environment that you're in, but actually recognize and honor the person you were created to be.

Encore: You mentioned growing up in Alaska, how was it?

Patrice: There are some wonderful experiences I had growing up in Alaska. I think there's a lot of natural beauty there and just a lot of opportunities to be outdoors. There

are many people who are from other parts of the country who live in Alaska, so I think people often become like family there. Those are some neat aspects of growing up in Alaska, but I think some of the challenging aspects at least where I grew up in Anchorage, was being one of the only black children in my elementary classroom. My family was often the only black family in my church congregation, so I think when you're in just a very white space trying to figure out who you are as a black child and a black woman those things can be challenging.

Encore: Do you think it's important for people to experience other cultures or people's backgrounds?

Patrice: I think it is absolutely important for us to develop greater understandings of other people's stories. I think what often happens is we don't understand the places where people are coming from. It's easy to kind of separate into categories of us vs. them. My hope is that we engage more deeply in other's stories. It's important to see that there are moments that unify us, moments where we have points of connection. I feel like it's those points of connection that allow us to cross the bridge of greater understanding of someone else's experience. It is a gift to our world when we understand people's stories and experiences.

Encore: Talk about the responses and feedback you have received about the book so far.

Patrice: I would just say, I'm so excited about this book, the early responses have been neat and I feel like it's opening the door for conversations. I'm excited about how this book is going to contribute to our current national and global conversations about topics like racial justice, the movement of people and immigration. Honestly, I'm just privileged that I get to be part of this work.

ENCORE

entertainment magazine

JONATHAN McReynolds

Make Room

Unexpected Places

Anthony Evans

Wayne Ellington

The Voice UK
& the Royal Wedding

Alicia M. Bailey

SHWAYZE

RAY & VIVIAN CHEW
Voice Your Inspiration

Uplifting Drama

God Friended Me

Evangelist

Danielle Williams-McCord

Forward Ave

"The Next NY
Choir Movement"



Keith "Wonderboy" Johnson

“

God has a very specific want and desire to have a relationship with you

Interview by David M. Wallace

ANTHONY EVANS

Encore: "Unexpected Places" is your first book, how was the experience?

Anthony: It's crazy because when the publishers first called about doing the book, I was a bit of a skeptic. I was like they're trying get my dad and my sister through me, they don't want me to write a book. But, as time went on I realized that they saw something in me that I didn't initially see. It was an interesting process because as a songwriter you have 3 1/2 minutes to write, make it rhyme and we're good. With a book it's a couple of hundred pages of telling stories and believing that God has given you a message through your experiences in life. It's been a very interesting experience that I'm glad to be part of.

Encore: Talk about how the book can be a source of encouragement for readers.

Anthony: I'm honored to be my dad's son, but there is pressure that comes with being a pastor's kid and it's not pressure put on by my dad, but just having his name and because he's so great, people expect me to be great in the same way. So, my encouragement to the readers in the book is letting them know God doesn't have grandkids, God is not connected to you just because of who your family is or who your parents are. God has a very specific want and desire to have a relationship with you individually and I had to learn that God has a plan for me that echoes some of what my dad had done and who he's been. Once I grasped the concept that God wants a very specific relationship with me then I was able to step into my own more. I was trying to be my dad not because he was trying to make me, but when I was trying to be my dad it felt like I was putting a left shoe on a right foot. Something about it was rubbing me wrong, but my encouragement comes from stepping into my own and dealing with the fact that God has an individual plan for me and that's what I want the readers to know.

Encore: Talk about the bond of your family and how it helps in working together in ministry.

Anthony: The bond of my family is strong because of my parents. They were the same on stage as they were off. When you're dealing with preacher's kids it's a very fine line. If we see

something different at home then we don't believe what you're saying anymore. Our bond is very strong because my parents are the same, there's no separation between what they are saying and what they were doing at the house. That has created a desire for all of us to be part of what they're doing. I have the privilege of working with my sisters, my brother and my parents, so we have a desire to be with each other on the road, because we know it's real. We know the bond that's been created is because of the reality of what faith is in action.

Encore: What is the biggest misconception about 'PK' kids?

Anthony: I think the biggest misconception is that I had it all together because I would act like I had it all together growing up. I didn't want to embarrass anybody and I didn't want anybody to think well, "Tony Evans is preaching all of this perfect word and his kids are not perfect." So, the biggest misconception is that we are not going through some of the deep concerning issues that most people are. I feel like that's the misconception and a lot of times it can be worse for preacher's kids, ministry kids or people who just have expectations, because it's almost like a building on a foundation that isn't dug deep enough. If it's not dug deep enough, the building will crumble and I think a lot of times 'PK' kids or people with expectations start to build higher than their foundation can handle and that ultimately ends up in a person crumbling.

Encore: Doing anything new or for the first time can be difficult. There's always that fear of failure. How did you deal with that?

Anthony: Always choose courage over comfort because when you step out into courage whatever the scenario is that you feel like, "This may be the next thing", but I'm fearful of it", just step out into courage. That is an unexpected place and I have met God in so many ways when I have taken those steps. When you do what you can, God will do what you can't.





Evangelist

Interview by
David M. Wallace

Danielle Williams-McCord

Encore: Talk about the evolution of your book, "From Porn to the Pulpit" into a play.

Danielle: The book was originally a diary and then I let a family member read it and she was like, "This is a book, you have to do something with it." So, I turned it into a book and it went bigger than what I expected it to. I was able to do book tours and get on many platforms because a lot of people have never heard of a pornstar who was now in the pulpit as a preacher. I was also going around mentoring other young adults, I did that for about 6 years, so I was like, "You know From Porn to the Pulpit, it's not done." Even though I've evolved beyond my testimony, it's not done, so I said, "What else can I do?" I've been on television, done magazines and I've preached all over different platforms with this book, but what else can I do? God told me to go back out and reach people who would never step foot in a church, I've done the book thing in the 4 walls of the church, in the conferences and revivals. It was time to go outside of the church and reach people, so that's how I turned it from a book into a play.

Encore: I'm sure you received a lot of criticism, talk about how you dealt with that.

Danielle: There was definite criticism and backlash not even with the play, but just with the testimony within itself. It's ironic, like an oxymoron because the church prays for the pornstars, the strippers, drug addicts and gang bangers and then when they come in, we kill our own. So, I was already not received well within the church, but I thank God that I've been delivered from people and my get up is not from church people, it's because God is fueling me. I've always had backlash from the time I came out with my story, when I came out with the book, it was always like, "Oh my God." I remember when I went internationally with the story and the book into another country and one of the main radio hosts said that the ministry team should have never even allowed someone like myself to even come into their country. I've had all kinds of people against what I was doing, however I kept pushing. When I came out with the play, the church

people were really upset because it was like, "Why do you have secular people on here?" You know the first person that I asked was Yung Joc, who is a reality star and rapper. That was the first thing they had to say and now I have Darrin Henson for the next show and I'm always reaching out to secular people, because that's the type of audience I want to reach.

Encore: Talk about how important it is to be transparent in reaching people caught up in certain lifestyles they want to break free from.

Danielle: I'm an open book, God has no respect of persons. The same way he saved, healed and delivered me from the lifestyle, He can do the same for them. I don't know how to be anything but real and 100, sometimes I'm a little too real, but that is what has allowed me to grace certain platforms and allowed me to keep going as long as I've been going, because I'm just so transparent and I give it to them straight. Obviously, I'm doing something right, it's one thing to be educated in something and another thing to be experienced in something. My experience in that lifestyle is what is relatable to so many people and that's why they'll give me an open ear, mind and heart to receive what I have to say.

Encore: Talk to us about the success and impact of the play.

Danielle: It was everything I expected and more. It really blew my mind, the show was sold out both nights. This was my first time doing this, I know how to do the, "Church Thing", but just coming into the world of entertainment I just went with the Holy Spirit. I had no idea, I was like, "Okay Lord, you got this." I was really blown away by the responses, my emails and inbox just blew up, because so many people were like, "I got freed at your play, I got delivered from things I've been going through for years. I was able to release, I laughed, cried and got angry, but most of all I got set free." So, I received my reward through this play because at the end of the day, it's not so much about money and numbers for me, it's about souls being saved and changing lives and this is why I put this production together.

Alicia M. Bailey
He's Here

Interview by David M. Wallace

“God has a purpose for everyone's life whether it's in the spotlight or not.”

Encore: Talk about your hit single CD release "He's Here," and the sound you wanted to produce.

Alicia: This project is near and dear to my heart because we've been working on it for quite some time. The sound of the album is Praise and Worship and there's something about entering into his presence with worship. The atmosphere shifts, so it's new, exciting, explosive and it's authentic worship. You can get the single anywhere digital media is sold and I can be reached at www.aliciabaileyministries.com.

Encore: Talk about the people who had a significant impact on this release.

Alicia: God blessed me to be able to work with some amazing folks. I was able to get with Colebro Entertainment, that's Chris Coleman and Dr. Rodney Coleman. It was amazing to see these guys in action and how gifted they are. I wrote all the arrangements and they did the music, it was great working with them and of course my auntie Pastor Shirley Caesar. She mentored me on this project and that was great for her to hear the music and give me her expert opinion.

Encore: How much of a role did your family play in your career?

Alicia: I started singing when I was a little girl on the choir. My mother taught me how to sing standing on the kitchen chair with a hairbrush. We come from a singing family and have many relatives who sing and Pastor Shirley Caesar is the queen of Gospel music. She's been that inspiration to me, just seeing her in action and growing up listening to her and seeing how she ministers. I thank God for having those influences in my family. More than anything what I want people

to get from the music is that God is amazing and God is real. It's great to have that legacy, but more than anything I want people to know that God is real and that He can change their life and that's the message I want to send.

Encore: We know about the singing, tell us about the ministry side of Alicia Bailey.

Alicia: I'm a church kid and we learned how to do everything, but more than anything I enjoyed the singing and ministry more. I became an ordained minister in 2006 and from there I did youth ministry and became a women's ministry leader and now I'm just a minister in the church overall. I think it's important that people know you're working in the church and it's not just entertainment, it's the work of God. I feel when people see you laboring, they know it's authentic and real.

Encore: Tell us about your book?

Alicia: The book is titled, "God's Fresh Air", it's at Barnes & Noble, Amazon, and anywhere you can get a book. It's a women's spiritual guidebook that just talks about finding who you are and your purpose in life, because a lot of people just think purpose means it has to be glitzy and glamorous, but it doesn't always have to be like that. God has a purpose for everyone's life whether it's in the spotlight or not. It's important to take these gifts and talents and use them to glorify God, so that's what this book is about. It's about breathing God's fresh air and to breathe God's fresh air means that you shine in your purpose, not anyone else's.



Keith "Wonderboy" Johnson

Interview by David M. Wallace

Encore: Tell us about the significance of the title of your latest release "Keep Pushin".

Keith: Well, "Keep Pushin", is a message I just wanted to get out to my friends, the saints, everybody that could hear my voice because everyone is going through something. I wanted to get the message out, "Don't let anybody steal your joy, don't let anybody determine your future." You determine your own and don't take your dream to the grave with you, "Keep Pushin", and that was the whole concept.

Encore: Talk about how you're able to effectively blend different styles with quartet music.

Keith: It all comes from my dad, he taught us to be able to go to any place, any avenue to be able to minister. I just wanted to do a mixture of music that everybody can enjoy whether its jazz, R&B or contemporary quartet. I feel contemporary quartet is still strong, we just have to make adjustments to get back to the forefront. We're lacking opportunity in certain avenues and places, so we're just trying to get back to the forefront. There used to be a time where you could listen to a radio station and within an hour you would hear 3-4 quartets. Now you can listen to a station all day and you may hear one quartet, so we just have to make the adjustment to being relevant and back at the forefront.

Encore: Talk about your relationship with childhood friend, D.A. Johnson.

Keith: The old fashioned saying is, "You can't do business with family." We're proving people wrong everyday because our relationship is business as well as family. We're both

raised in Brooklyn, N.Y., our parents basically brought us up in the church. We all have basically been knowing each other since I was 5, we were blessed to do a CD together years ago and now we're blessed to do business together again.

Encore: Who are some of your influences in Quartet Gospel music?

Keith: My dad was personal friends with Willie Neal Johnson, so I was a big fan. Actually the first song I sang was, "Jesus You've Been Good to Me" and my grandfather's favorite groups were the "The Dixie Hummingbirds" and "The Soul Stirrers" and I liked them. My dad's next favorite group was "The Mighty Clouds of Joy". Then for a little taste of something different my sister introduced me to the sound of "The Winans" and Rance Allen. In my teenage years I got introduced to a young man, Harvey Watkins Jr. of "The Canton Spirituals" and that was a group that really polished it off for me. They were such an impact on my career.

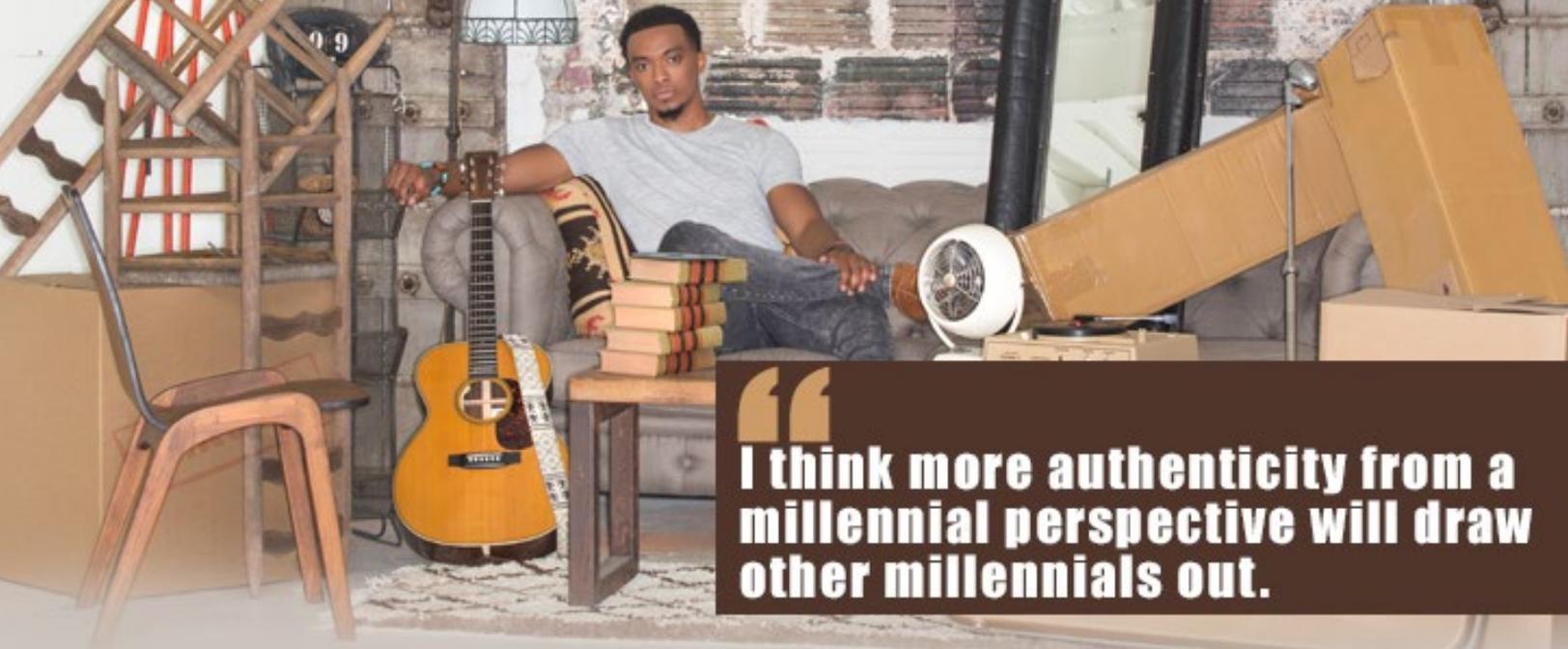
Encore: Talk about some of the people you worked with in putting this album together.

Keith: I went by, "You have not because you ask not." I started reaching out to all my friends to help me with this project. I have a lot of great musicians and singers, Spanky Williams, Tyrone Jackson, Shon Hinton (Mary J Blige's guitarist), J Vito (from The Hamiltones), Tron Sherrills, it's just all me and my friends coming together for this project. I believe if you get it, it'll be a blessing to your music catalog.



JONATHAN McReynolds

Interview by David M. Wallace



“
I think more authenticity from a millennial perspective will draw other millennials out.”

Encore: Tell us about the journey of putting together your latest release, "Make Room".

Jonathan: All my music is a snapshot of my life at times and this one is no different. It's definitely just a season for making room. A lot of stuff over the last 7 years have accumulated in my life, different career things, relationship things, goals, dreams and ambitions. Sometimes, we can get distracted in growth in those things, so I just realized my relationship with God was getting squeezed out a little bit in the midst of those things. In certain seasons I just get to a point where I'm writing a lot and I start looking towards an album to which songs fit and which songs don't. The thing that was different about this one, was I had to kind of save all of those songs for a live recording as opposed to just a recording as I write them, so it was really a different experience, very rewarding.

Encore: This is your first live recording, talk about the pros and cons of a live recording.

Jonathan: It's the first time that you're singing these songs in front of people. For all of us that are very meticulous, there are more mistakes, there's more error and less room to fix it. Then there's also a lot of pressure to execute a song well in front of everybody. There's no chance to record it in obscurity, but the pros are it's just a very rewarding energy that you record. A lot of things happen spontaneously that you could never produce in a studio. When you have a live recording, the band and the audience, they're helping you record that song and it's more collaborative. It takes on a life that is even more appealing to a wider group of people. They help record and establish what that song was, so all of that input is a con, but it's also a pro.

Encore: Would you do it again?

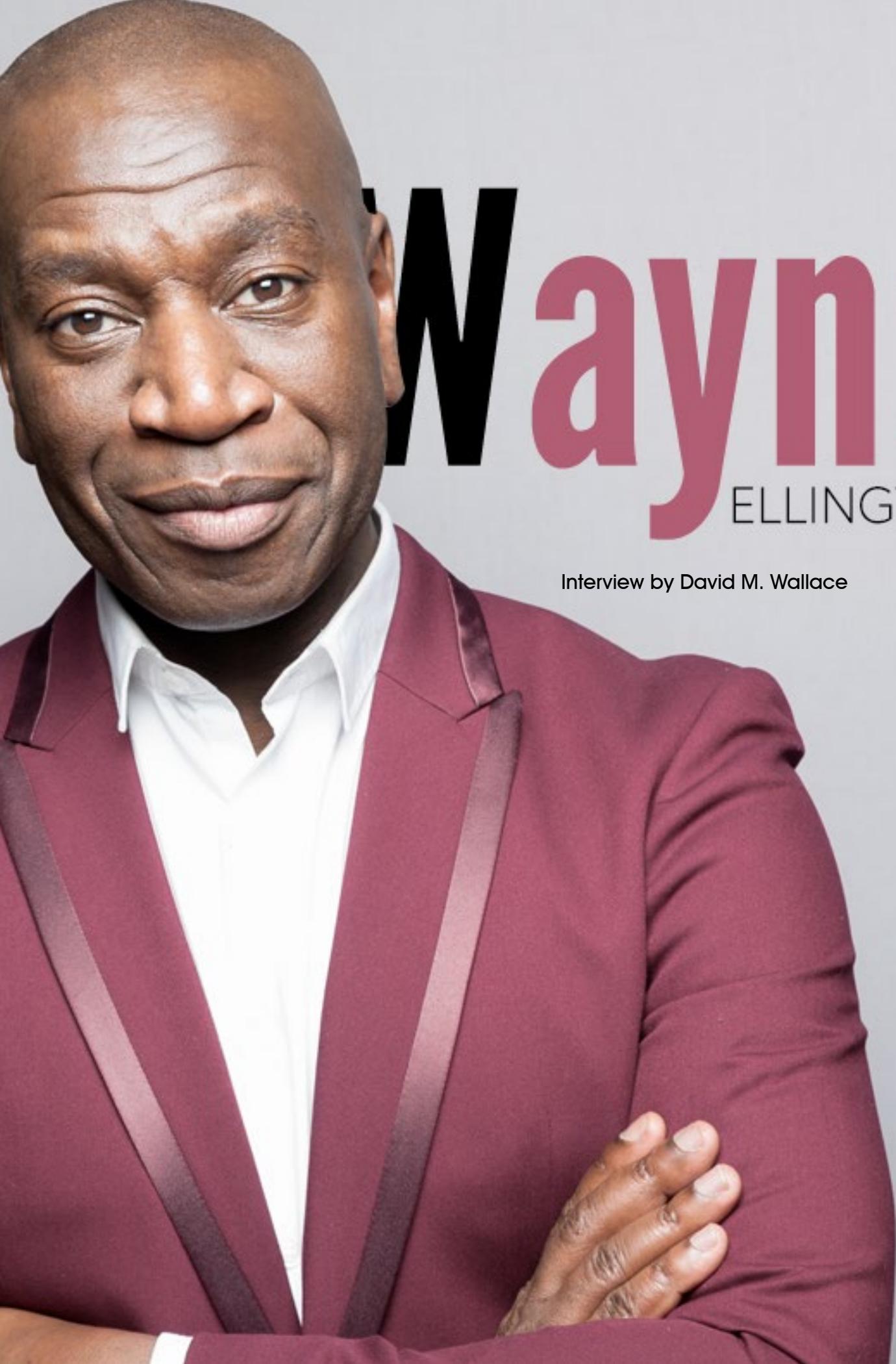
Jonathan: I don't know if I would do it that big, I'll probably try to bring it down a little bit to more of a studio, maybe with people watching, but it was definitely cool. Maybe if I do it again, it might not be my next record, but at some point in the future I may do it again. It was definitely an amazing experience, we learned a lot.

Encore: Talk about the impact of the collaborations.

Jonathan: There were a lot of collaborations in the finished product, but my goal for most of them was just to be very free flowing in the moment. So, Travis Greene, Anthony Brown, Bryan Courtney Wilson, Tonya Baker and Latice Crawford, they didn't even know they were going to be on the record. They might have known they were going to be casted somehow, but they didn't know when until I pointed to them to sing. So, a lot of the vibrations are definitely a part of what I call, "Life on Flow," you're just literally having fun with the song. I think it was a really cool experience, the ones that were spur of the moment really added a unique authenticity to it, because now it's not just my voice, it's the other people in the room as well offering the song from their perspective, which is very powerful.

Encore: You, along with our other cover story, Todd Dulaney, connect with the millennials, what's your perspective on the significance of that connection?

Jonathan: In general, I just think that society and I mean the culture in church and outside of church has become very disenchanted with the church. It's become cool to not be incredibly in favor of the church and the culture so there's a lot of things we have to fight through. There's so many things that went into shaping this millennial generation that just does not chime well with the church and the traditions that we once knew. A lot of the commitment that is necessary is just not attractive to a millennial as it was to other generations. I'm sure every generation has its challenges, I think a lot has been made of this generation which also adds to the problem, I think we just kind of magnify things and start believing the magnification. But, I think that ultimately the only cure is that other millennials continue to speak, exhibit and demonstrate the validity of the truth that we need to adhere to. I think one of the best compliments I have ever gotten that just stuck with me was somebody said, "Thank you for being us," and I mean that's it, I'm not trying to be anybody else. I just happen to be a part of this generation so when I speak about Jesus from my perspective it definitely relates naturally, it's not forced, it's natural. Some feel like church is not a part of their generation, desires and culture preferences. I think more authenticity from a millennial perspective will draw other millennials out.



Wayne

ELLINGTON

Interview by David M. Wallace



being a Christian isn't about going to church, it's about having relationship with Jesus

Encore: You were part of the choir who performed at the Royal Wedding, talk about your involvement and the experience.

Wayne: It was Prince Charles's idea to have a gospel choir at the wedding. I used to be part of that choir while living in London many years ago, so it's been in existence for a very long time now and under the direction of Karen Gibson. Karen has worked with so many people around Europe and the world, she's been a great part of my life. I live in Manchester which is about 2 hours away from there, but Karen wanted to involve former members of the choir so that was pretty cool. The whole day was a beautiful experience and to actually take part in it, it's kind of indescribable, it was a complete honor.

Encore: The Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle was applauded for its diversity, how significant is that?

Wayne: When it comes to the whole diversity thing, I know that Prince Charles loves Gospel music anyway and to be involved was a big thing not just for the choir, but for the country as well. We just wanted to make sure that the couple enjoyed the day. A lot was made mention about there being a black choir at the Royal Wedding which was never heard of. However, we wanted to share our faith through the music and the song we sang with the hope that it would resonate with those who were there and those watching on TV.

Encore: You were a contestant on The Voice UK 2018, how was that experience and what did you want to get out of it?

Wayne: I had good intentions and a strategy of what I wanted to potentially achieve out of it. Mainly, I do love teaching, I run a community choir in my church for the past 12 years and I've also held choir workshops around Europe and the UK, so I spend a lot of my time teaching. I also do my own show, but that's quite sporadic, I want to do more so being on the Voice was a great experience and exposure. In terms of contacts and people calling me for more work and things like that, it hasn't happened. It would've been a bonus, but that wasn't what I wanted, I wanted to do more solo singing and that was just a great step for more exposure and for my show, "An Evening with Wayne Ellington." I chose Tom Jones to be my coach and that was a nice experience, a lot of

people are harboring about what he said on stage. It was my last performance and he said, "It would be great to sing with you one day." I'm not waiting for the guy to call me, if he calls great, if he doesn't, it's all good. It's a game show as well, so I had to take that into consideration. The celebrities that were there Olly Murs, Tom Jones, Jennifer Hudson, Will.i.am, they all say things sometimes just for TV, so you have to think about those things as well and not take it to heart. But, I'll tell you that the whole experience was superb, the only thing I was gutted about coming out of the competition was that I wasn't going to get any new suits or shoes.

Encore: You mentioned the workshops and teaching you do, tell us more about that passion.

Wayne: I've been running Gospel choir community workshops around Europe and the UK for the past 13 or 14 years. So, I regularly go to Poland, Italy, Germany, France, Switzerland and numerous places in the UK. Now, I'm running a vocal master class to places where people don't really get a lot of Gospel choir singing or teaching. I teach them where Gospel music has come from and once I do that, I teach them how they can sing better. My classes are run for anybody, so whether they are advanced singers or beginners it's raising their confidence and self esteem. A lot of people tend to do the workshops because of the way it's run, it's exciting and enjoyable, then they do a concert at the end of it. A typical weekend would look like; I'll fly out on a Friday to Poland, settle down and rehearse with the band. On Saturday from 10 to about 5 or 6:30 I'll teach between 6 and 8 songs. On Sunday, it's about rehearsal from 10-3 and then the concert. It's a mission as a singer, missionary and a Christian, I love it. So, when you get people who tell you they're atheists, I'm like, "That's all good, but check this out, you're singing about Jesus and let that be a testimony, because being a Christian isn't about going to church, it's about having relationship with Jesus." Once they understand about the song that they're singing, then hopefully they'll be able to take it all in and accept Jesus or ask questions. They love the way I teach because I exude Jesus before teaching a song. I explain what the song is all about, so I make sure people understand it's not just all about singing, it's about building friendship and their relationship with God.



S hwayze

GOD'S ~~NOT~~ DEAD

A LIGHT IN DARKNESS

Interview by David M. Wallace

God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness is based on a college, I play a college student who is for the campus. I'm not really for the church, I'm opposing it, thinking that the church is taking up space that can be used for other things, like sports or after school programs. Initially, my character is against the whole church, throughout the movie my best friend goes through some hardships and I'm torn between wanting the church there. Towards the end, you see my character change and I see the value of the church on campus. For me it was great, I am a person of faith, but for me to play that character I think it's cool for other people to see the changes in that character. I think that a lot of people who don't follow Christ will be able to relate to the character.

Prior to this I did a faith-based film called "Do you Believe", a couple of years ago. It was a great film by Pure Flix, who are the same people who did "God's Not Dead: A Light in Darkness". They actually called me up and said there was a role that would fit me, I read the script and fell in love with it. I made time for it, because I had to be in it. It's a cool small part and I think it's very potent. I just love what Pureflix is doing, just because it's a faith-based film doesn't mean it's not exciting or dramatic. It's everything that all these big movies are but they just have a great world message. When I had got the first script I had already seen "God's Not Dead" and was a fan of it. So, I was really excited to see what they had in store. I see films where they're putting hundreds and millions into production, but it's all about substance. You're spending so much money, but there's no message. "What did we just go spend \$20 on in the movie theater?" I get it, it's action, it's special effects, but I want something that's going to feed my soul and I think that they do a good job with that. I think it's very important in the film industry to have faith-based films and I hope to see them grow.

I think that everyone needs something to believe in. If you don't stand for something, you'll fall for anything. I think that putting your time and attention into something that's going to nourish you and not be negative is something we all need to do. So, whatever that is for everyone is what needs to be focused on. In this film the story goes from a pastor whose struggling to get his message across and a church whose able to stand up for what he believes in. At the end of the day he stood up for what he believed in and no matter how many obstacles were thrown at him or how many people said it was wrong or how many people talked bad about him, he stayed focused. At the end of the day he got what was right and the church was able to stay. I think that's able to be applied to anything in life. Stay focused, because no matter what there's always going to be hate. Stay focused and know what your purpose is and at the end of the day, you'll be rewarded.



DAWN HALFKENNY

Interview by David M. Wallace

Encore: Talk to us about the success of "Saints & Sinners" and the character you play.

Dawn: This is the number one show and the ratings are going through the roof, so congrats to everyone involved and thanks to the supporters, the love is so real. My character is the church secretary from season 1, she was meek & quiet, but still in everyone's business, now she kind of develops into this woman where you know she doesn't play about her money. She makes sure that her tracks are always covered and she just doesn't play. I think it's an awesome opportunity, I'm pretty much the fresh face of the group because everyone else that's involved as far as the cast members, they've all been in the industry for so many years. I'm just now scratching the surface, it's such a blessing to work alongside such talented and seasoned creative individuals, this is my third season and I'm just elated.

Encore: Do you believe some of the success of the show is due to church people being able to relate to it?

Dawn: I think it's very relatable, although it's not based on a true story it has very real scenarios. It's basically about a corrupt small-town church in Georgia and you have murder, deceit, lies, greed and scandal. All of this happens within the church and so many people can relate to the things that have taken place. It's funny because even when I'm out walking around, I get stopped so many times and people are like, "Hey, I love your character on the show, this goes down in my church." I just get thrown back like, "Wow, this really does happen outside of being on set." So, I think it's very relatable

and people can relate to the situations.

Encore: We have a "ReelStory" feature which seeks to offer encouragement to actors of color who may be struggling, can you offer some inspiration?

Dawn: You're gonna hear no, maybe a billion times, it's so funny because people see me and they're like, "Oh my gosh Dawn, you've booked so many other projects and you're always working." But, the truth is I don't book everything I audition for. I audition many times a week, I can audition 15 times and I might get a call back on the 15th. You just got to keep going, putting your hard work forward and once you put that audition on tape, you just have to go on to the next one. Make sure you network and take classes. Do research because there's so many people nowadays that just want to have the quick results. When I first started, I didn't just get an agency, I Googled all the agencies in the area and I sent my headshot and resume to all of them. I continued to submit until someone reached out to me, so you have to be persistent, it only goes up from there. Put in the work and everything will happen.

Encore: Any last words about the show you want leave with us?

Dawn: Stay tuned each and every Sunday at 9pm, 8 central. You can follow me on all social media @dawnhalfkenny. Thank you to everyone that has supported us and thank you for these numbers, they're awesome. Keep watching, it's guaranteed to leave you at the edge of your seat.



SAINTS & SINNERS

BOUNCE
TV Our Way



STEVEN MALCOLM

Interview by David M. Wallace

Encore: How does your heritage play a big part in your music?

Steven: My heritage is Jamaican and one of the big impacts on my life was the absence of my father and so this was a project that was an ode to my past and tidings to my heritage of being Jamaican. My family is from Montego Bay, Jamaica which is known as the second city, so we're using that as an ode to my past and a representation of a new hope and redemption that I found in Jesus Christ.

Encore: Tell us about your biographical video and its significance.

Steven: I still have a lot of pictures of my dad, so we wanted to open up more and let people see the real me. A lot of my struggles growing up was identity, because of the absence of my dad. I was always struggling trying to find my identity, trying to find my purpose, so I wanted to take that picture and let people see the real side of me.

Encore: Give us a little insight into your writing style.

Steven: My writing style always springs from the beat, it just pulls something out of me, whether it's something I've been struggling with or it's something that's been on my mind and heart. So, it starts with the production and then I let the production just pull the music out of me.

Encore: You are a Christian Hip-Hop artist, so talk to us about some of the major influences and where you feel the genre is right now.

Steven: My major influence was Michael Jackson, I seen him and I started dancing and wanting to perform. Bob Marley because of the peace and the unity within the message and music. Lecrae, of course one of the biggest inspirations when I started doing Christian Hip-Hop. I feel like Christian Hip-Hop is growing. We're definitely still a small genre, but thanks to people like Lecrae who have put a spotlight on our genre there is a market for it. Lecrae has put it in a platform where cats like me are able to do what we do, so it's super dope. People want to hear great hip-hop music that's about Jesus.

Encore: Any last words you want to leave with us about your music and message?

Steven: Just know that we got a part 2,3, and 4 coming out this year and definitely got a lot of great music. There's going to be a lot of hits coming out. We're here rocking off of the glory of Jesus, we have a heavenly father who is omnipresent and who is always there when we need to seek him. You can find that piece that is missing within all of us, that struggle in identity, so reach out, seek and know that the heavenly father is perfect.

A NIGHT OF INSPIRATION RETURNS TO CARNEGIE HALL FOR A POWERFUL
AND UPLIFTING NIGHT OF PRAISE & WORSHIP

Chew Entertainment & RCA VOICE YOUR INSPIRATION

On Tuesday June 26, 2018 at the Sony Rooftop we were on hand to interview the husband and wife producer team at their press conference & reception for our award winning Encore "LIVE" series.

Ray Chew & Vivian Scott Chew
discuss community & music

WATCH THE VIDEO



Chew Entertainment lead by husband and wife producer team Ray Chew & Vivian Scott Chew, along with Carnegie Hall, are proud to announce the return of one of New York's premiere events - A Night of Inspiration 2018 - staged at the world famous Carnegie Hall on Saturday, December 15th. In its third installment, this auspicious event is where faith and mainstream music meet at the same intersection for a rousing night of uplifting music.

ENCORE LIVE



Confirmed artists for this year's "A Night of Inspiration" are: Richard Smallwood, Bishop Hezekiah Walker, Iyanla Vanzant, J.J. Hairston, Israel and Adrienne Houghton, Travis Greene and many more to be announced.

In association with RCA Inspiration, Chew Entertainment is looking for the next urban inspirational artist. For more information visit us at (www.nightofinspiration.org) and follow us on social media @voiceyourinspiration (on all handles) for the latest news and updates about one of the greatest night in music.





GOD friended me

Article by David M. Wallace

"God Friended Me" debuted to solid numbers on CBS. Airing at 8:30 p.m., on Sunday the uplifting drama scored a 1.4 rating in adults 18-49 and 10.4 million viewers. "God Friended Me" is about Miles Finer (Brandon Micheal Hall), a podcast-hosting, self-proclaimed atheist whose life is forever changed when he receives a friend request on social media from God. Miles is now set on a journey of changing the lives of people he encounters. The rest of the cast involves Cara (Violett Beane), an online journalist, best friend Rakesh (Suraj Sharma), a gifted hacker and Joe Morton who plays Reverend Arthur Finer, Miles's father. Rounding out the cast is Miles's sister, Ali, a doctoral psych student and bartender.

The winning cast of "God Friended Me" is definitely a strong point of the series. The chemistry of Cara (Violett Beane) and Miles is intriguing and makes you want to tune in to see where it goes. Rakesh (Suraj Sharma) adds some comic relief and the cast is grounded by the presence of Joe Morton.

"God Friended Me" does a solid job of not being too preachy but still delivering a powerful message of faith and redemption. So, it offers a good blend giving the series a commercial appeal, while still being able to connect with the faith-based audience. The pilot seemed to move at a brisk pace, which kept me interested as the plot developed. The series is also aided by some of the musical choices, but it wouldn't hurt to mix in some Christian and Gospel music, which would give the series another layer. There are so many dark series out there with even darker characters, this makes "God Friended Me" truly stand out and refreshing especially if you want a break from the dark comedies or dramas. A likeable cast and the charisma of lead actor Brandon Micheal Hall is a true selling point to keep tuning in every Sunday.



“The Next NY Choir Movement”

FORWARD A V E

Interview
by David M. Wallace

Encore: Talk about the mission and goal of the choir.

Kennard: The mission and goal of the choir is to inspire people to always move forward and accomplish whatever dream and goal they have in their life. So, whatever idea that you have it's not too big, or too small, feel free to always go forward and try to accomplish it. Do whatever it takes to make your dreams come true, that's basically the mission of the choir.

Encore: What do you feel is the biggest obstacle in people not fulfilling their dreams?

Kennard: Honestly, often times it's in their own mind, they tell themselves they can't do it because something happened in their life. There are a lot of examples of people who had a difficult upbringing, people who may not have grown up with a silver spoon in their mouth and they have had a difficult time trying to accomplish something great, but some people break through that. I have personally been directing choirs for about 10-11 years now. It was an idea I had to start my own choir and to do this because I would always see it in a different realm than directing my conventional church choir. So, in starting this choir I was very apprehensive, but I had to tell myself this is something I really want to do and shake off any nervousness or "I can't do this", and go forward and try to accomplish it, so I definitely think it's a mindset thing holding people back.

Encore: Talk to us about your recruiting campaign.

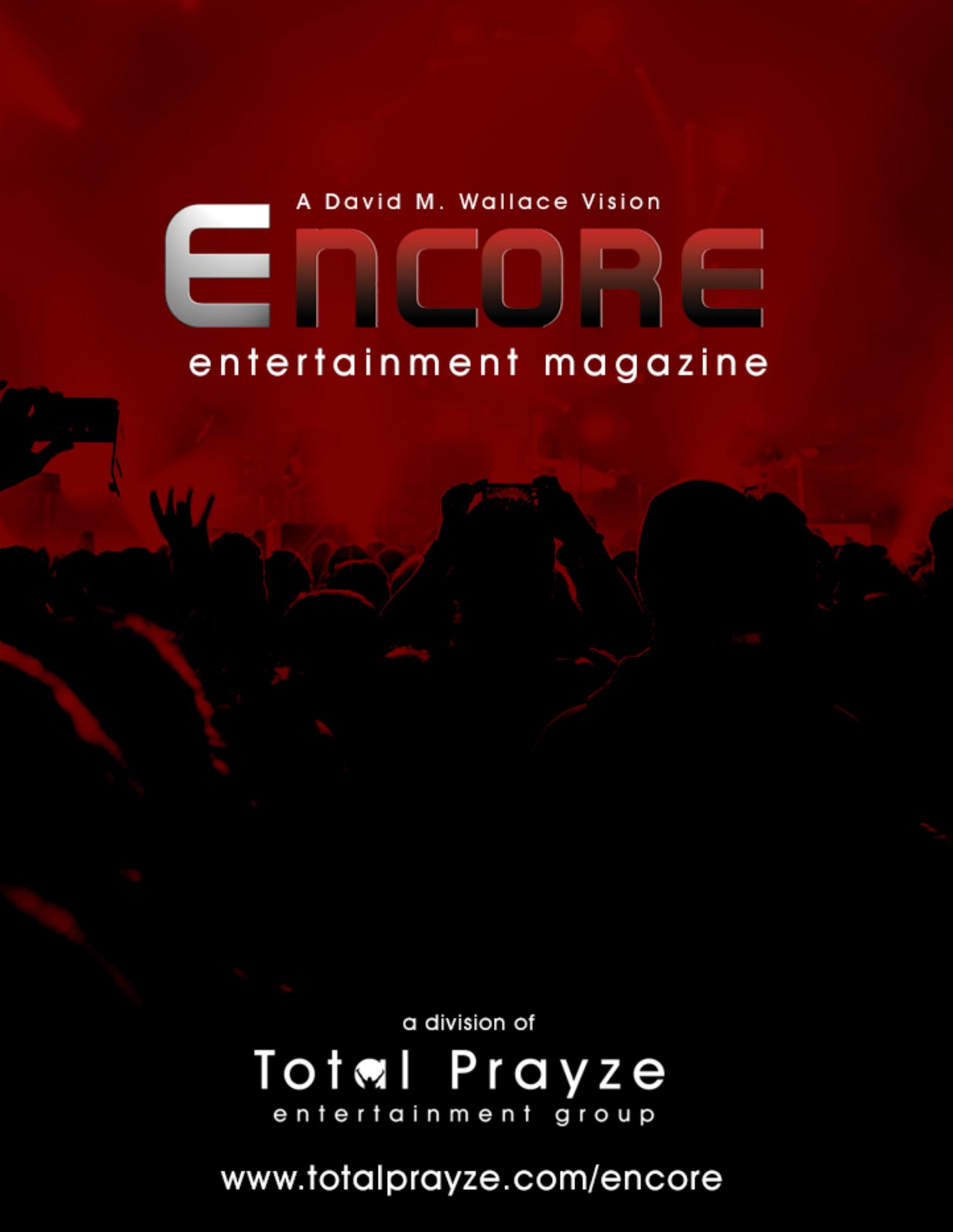
Kennard: Our recruiting campaign consists of 3 separate videos, the first video talks about the mission of the choir, it basically says whatever dream or goal you have you can do it, and this choir is not just a regular choir, but we're your

friends who are going to help you do it. The second video talks about the work ethic that's needed to accomplish your dreams. Sometimes people have the ideas but are not willing to take that next step and actually work hard for it. That is a video of us actually rehearsing where we are digging into notes, vowel sounds and all those things that make a choir a choir, because our dream is to be one of the greatest choirs ever. The last part of the video series is where we are singing at a nursing home, we are inspiring them to keep their minds and spirits high. One of the things we have found in research is that a lot of adults in nursing homes sometimes feel like they are forgotten because they are so separate from their families at times. By going there we are encouraging them to keep their minds high. My hope is that when people see the video series they will want to be part of the choir.

Encore: Tell us about the rehearsal.

Kennard: On October 17, it will be the first time that we will be bringing together everyone that signed up for the choir. That will be the day where we will actually go through some vocal exercises with people to really check out where they are vocally and if they will be able to continue singing with the choir. After that we will have a collective audition where everybody will be able to sing together, hear each other and be able to really develop that sound together as a choir. Then we will start working on our individual material.



A crowd of people at a concert, silhouetted against a bright red background. Some people are holding up cameras or phones to take pictures. The overall atmosphere is energetic and vibrant.

A David M. Wallace Vision

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