

James "J. London" Brittan

James Brittan was born and raised in Columbus, Ohio. Truly gifted as an exceptional singer and musician, he has undoubtedly made his mark in the world of music and entertainment!

For over twenty years, James has committed himself to being the best he could be, by honing the musical talents that were ever present since he was very young.

At age six, he began studying music theory: his innate understanding of harmony enabled him to adapt to the piano very quickly. At age ten, a second instrument was introduced to the young man—the trumpet.

Having developed at a faster-than-normal pace, James landed #1 spots in both, his junior and high school, bands.

Recognizing his desire for music, the church offered James the opportunity to exercise his creativity by expressing himself publicly. He went on to perform with several church and high school choirs. Being lively and spirited—and never busy enough, the hustling entertainer organized his first R & B group, THE ELEMENTS OF SOUL. Only a glimpse of the success to come, the group entered a citywide talent show and earned the Gold Medal for first place. To honor the hardworking teenager, James was invited to perform at the 1972 Inner City Expo in Columbus, Ohio.

In the fall of 1973, James started college at Fairmont State in West Virginia. He quickly became a reputable solo act, gracing the West Virginia campus coffee house circuit.

Occasionally accompanied by saxophonist, Willie Bryant, James became a regular on Fairmont's campus—somewhat of an iconic fixture. Having a student following and excellent rapport with campus club owners served to promote the



further growth of his act—group musicians were added.

The books and the band kept James pretty busy during college; however, he remained flexible enough to pursue other artistic interests.

Being an aspiring actor also, James found time to work with the Fairmont State Community Theatre Series. He was cast in a play called "Ben Franklin in Paris," as well as Neil Simon's "Barefoot in the Park." A children's production of "Alice in Wonderland" and pre Southern California productions by

Columbus, Ohio's Southfield Baptist Church, "The Greatest Play Ever Written" (the clown), and "If I Am the Last, You're In Trouble" (Ethelbert Smith) should not be excluded from this list.

After graduating in 1977, a new era began, boosting James' professional career. He responded to once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and traveled with Philadelphia International recording artists, THE O'JAYS, as a roadie on their 20th anniversary tour.

Now considered a professional on the road, while heading to the Christian Broadcast Network's televising of the 1984 Gospel Music Association's Dove Awards, James was called upon to perform with such artists as Joe Mitchell's PEACE, HOPE, AND SECURITY and ANDRE and SANDRA CROUCH. As television appearances go, to add to his growing and impressive resume, James also performed on Black Entertainment Television's (BET) "Bobby Jones' Gospel Show," hosted by Grammy Award winning, Dr. Bobby Jones.

Prior to his R&B career, James cut his first three gospel singles, "Everlasting Life," "Jesus Stepped into My Life, II" and "Do What You Will." A 1982 vocal appearance with the gospel studio group, PROJECT LIFE, offered James

radio exposure, including 52 stations and a BILLBOARD review of the song "Everlasting Life. II His 1988 release, "Do What You Will," co-written by Rodney Sutton, received attention and airplay by the British Broadcasting Company on RADIO ONE, throughout the United Kingdom.

His debut CD, recorded on Uncle Fats Records, was reviewed and featured on 22 radio stations in Canada and the USA! The video of "Thank You, Lady" was previewed on BET and SOUL BEAT in Oakland and San Francisco, California.

The 1994 Jazz release of 2nd View Records' CD, "Reflections," by The P. RANEY COALITION, features James' vocal and scat talents on the title track, "Reflections" and on the re-make of the STYLISTIC'S "People Make the World Go Round." The album made its way into 60-plus jazz markets across the USA!

In the early '90s, the PROJECT LIFE years, James acquired the nickname, Frisky London, from his long-time musician buddies, who pointed out the fact that he was always on the move-he was "frisky!" The name, London, was a play on his given last name, Brittan.

Seating himself in both the producers and directors chairs for his solo CD project, "Thank You, Lady, n along with being a talented and actual "performing" artist, "Frisky London" became his early stage name. He has



since become "J. LONDON" as the novice phases of his musical career have transitioned into a fully-developed knowledge of how it's done-his sound, more polished and seasoned!

On top of all his previous accomplishments, J. London was nominated in the 1995 Grammys for Best R&B Male Vocal Performance, Best R&B Album, and Best R&B Song for his CD, "Thank You, Lady." He was also a nominee in the Composing and Arrangement Field, Engineering Field, and as co-producer in the Roy Porter Sound Machine'94 (1994) "Slaughter House, for the Grammy entry CD " for the

Best Solo Rap category.

The 1994/95 releases of UK Compilations, "Soul'd Together" #3 and #4, received reviews from many UK magazines, along with Germany and Japan through the London based label, About Time Records.

You can hear the effects of J. London's many years of devotion and experience on his debut CD entitled, "Thank You, Lady, " or on his latest CD project entitled, "Stop On By", recorded on San-Ton Entertainment and Blue Gill Records.

James "J. LONDON" Brittan is a man on the move-make sure you have an opportunity to see this remarkable artist perform.