

PRODUCTION ONE LTD.

Production One Ltd.
in collaboration with
UTT Academy for
the Performing Arts
present

The Evolution of Michael Boothman

A Family of Giants, Part I

A celebration of over 50 years of Trinidad popular music from the eldest member of this iconic musical and artistic family. From *The Rockerfellas* to *Kysofusion* to *Heaven* and beyond.



Sunday, 28 October, 2018
Theatre 1, UTT Campus at NAPA
Port of Spain
6:00 p.m.



The Academy for the
Performing Arts (APA)





Photo: Josh Rudder/TOVA

PROGRAMME *

1. Under the Mango tree
2. Mike's Samba
3. Tabu
4. Diego Shuffle
5. Saying It With Music
6. Mystic Sea
7. Geganga
8. Going South
9. Fuse It Up
- INTERMISSION —
10. My Guiding Star
11. Jump With Me
12. Waiting For Your Love *ft. Charmaine Forde*
13. *What You Won't Do For Love* *ft. Charmaine Forde*
14. Heaven
15. Song For My Soul
16. Maya Mosquito
17. Greasy

* Song order and selection subject to change

A Family Of Giants is a mini-series of concerts focusing on the important cultural, artistic and musical Boothman family, and by extension, Holder family. A family of giants is more than a literal description for the Boothman brothers, Michael, David and Roger, all towering six-footers. It is a figurative demonstration of excellence from the extended family that includes the famous Holder brothers, Boscoe and Geoffrey, the Boothman brothers' uncles, and all are examples writ large of the best of Caribbean creativity that have made impressions worldwide. In Part I of the mini-series, the spotlight will be on big brother Michael, recognizing his 50-year composing, recording, and performing career. More to come on the other brothers next year.

The Evolution of Michael Boothman

It can be reasonably argued that one name has been consistent in the local popular music scene from the days of the young combos in the 1960s through the genesis of soca and calypso jazz in the 1970s to the flirtations with the international music scene in the 1980s to today with the scene's subliminal influences of and by global pop music. Michael Boothman has been at the forefront of these changes, this evolution if you will, of our native music as we attempt to make an impression on the psyche and commercial consciousness of the wider world.

Beginning with his "swinging" combo group, The Rockerfellas, Michael was among the vanguard of a wave of young musicians trying to break into the modern scene, recording and playing at parties and wielding that electric guitar which was a symbol of young rebellion and innovation.

In time, an older Michael along with his younger brother, keyboardist David Boothman, would begin their experiments in that new fusion of African music, Shango rhythms, jazz, calypso, even flirting with the musical seeds of what would become soca in a few years. The resulting band, Family Tree, would record, and create a link to the

wider musical revolution happening at the time when freedom to try new ideas was acceptable and profitable.

Michael would continue to forge ahead as a songwriter and producer in tents for calypsonians and for singers in the studio. A big break came when well-respected record executive Clarence Avant heard a Boothman song and invited him to record an LP in the US, with a who's who of the most noted session men in New York. The resulting album, *Heaven*, stands today as a landmark in the local recording industry's efforts to make it on the international scene with major label distribution.

His *kysofusion* innovation in the 1980s marked a period of superlative productions for singers including Keith "Designer" Prescott and Charmaine Forde. And to bless the audience further in this concert, Forde has returned to Trinidad from the United States and will appear with her producer to sing the hit composition of Boothman and Carl Jacobs, "Waiting For Your Love."

Audiences are in for a retrospective of a career that has not stopped, and provides ample proof that the phrase, "Trinidad is bursting with talent" is not hyperbole or trite, but an apt description of this giant of the local music industry.



CHARMAINE FORDE

This concert, **The Evolution of Michael Boothman: A Family of Giants, Part I** continues the series of concerts that arise from a collaboration between UTT Academy for the Performing Arts and concert producer, Production One Ltd. of *Jazz Artists on the Greens* fame. UTT continues to archive the local music output via highly regarded live performances and uses these as tools in its educational outreach. Boothman revealed that The Rockerfellas first professional gig in the 1960s was for engineer and now professor Ken Julian, so that this concert completes a circle of connection at the UTT Academy for the Performing Arts, a Julian initiative that continues the track of achievement.

THANK YOU!

The producers of **The Evolution of Michael Boothman: A Family of Giants, Part I** would like to thank and acknowledge the following persons for their commitment and effort to make this concert a reality.

MUSICIANS:

Michael Boothman (guitars), Anton Charles (piano and keyboards), Orville Roach (keyboards), Zane Charles (bass), Joshua Salcedo (drums, percussion), Mya Scott and Tehilla Jones (background vocals).

AND SPECIAL GUEST:

Charmaine Forde (vocal).

STAGE MANAGER:

Alroy Harry

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGERS:

Kadeem Sobers, Kristen George

SOUND ENGINEER:

Katsunari Imai

LIGHTING DESIGNER:

Richard Bryant

Thank you to Lamar Pollard at the UTT Academy for the Performing Arts for your continued support and coordination of this concert series, and you the patrons who came to be part of this celebration.

NEXT UP IN THE SERIES: SATURDAY, 24 NOVEMBER, 2018

