



The International Fan Club Magazine

Issue 3 Jan 1 2016

Only In America



Spotlight
On Johnny Moore

Rick Sheppan
Legends
Resurrection

Only In America
A Musical Renaissance

Joe Blunt
Legends
Resurrection

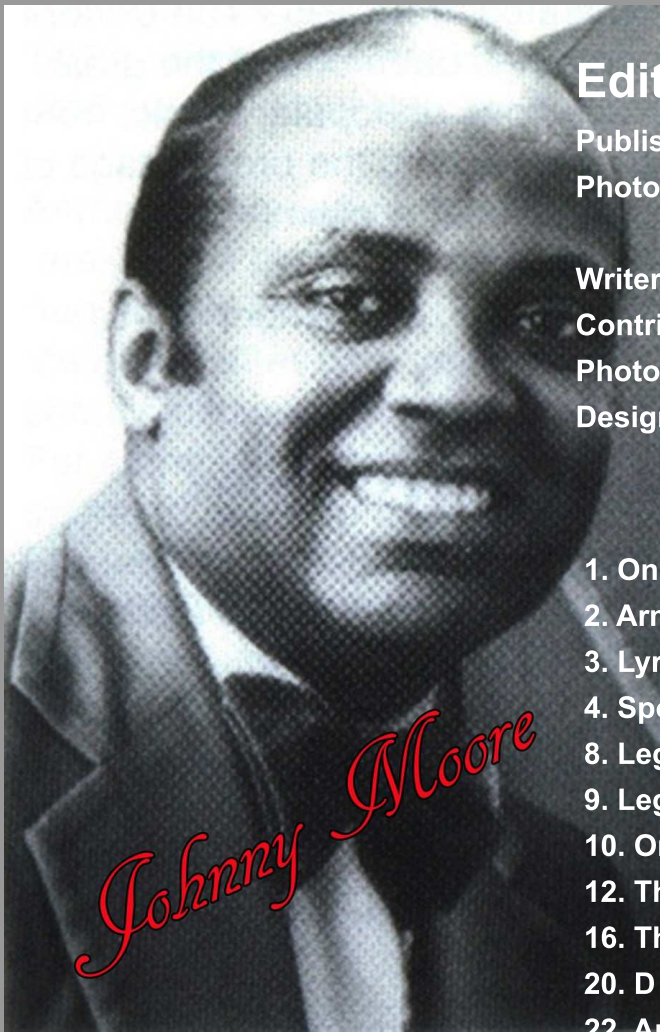


Butch Leake
Legends
Resurrection



Clyde Brown
Legends
Resurrection

The Vegas Years



Editorial Contributions & Credits

Publisher.....The Drifters Legends Clubhouse

Photography.....Butch Leake /

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Writers.....B. Leake /

Contributions.....J. Blunt / R. Sheppard

Photos.....B. Leake Ent. (PMG) Music

Design.....Butch Leake Ent. & Productions

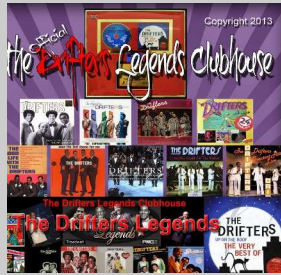
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Magazine™
*Legends
Universe*

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Only In America



Only In America The Legacy of the 70s. A nostalgic musical story highlighting the songs of the great writers of Atlantic and Bell Records and popularized by The Drifters Legends. Only in America brings to life a musical brand who's music span the shores of America in the early 50s but crystallizes into a European Renaissance during the 70s. The success of any music entity is truly a collaboration between its writers, producers and artist who deliver the product in its end process. The Drifters brand have delivered over the past 60 years 114 million Albums and 214 million singles sold. it has traversed 3 major recording companies Atlantic and Bell/Arista records and recently Sony Music with a Gold CD 100,000 unit in 2012. It claims such writers as Burt Bacharach, Carole King, Leiber & Stoller, Pomus & Schumer, Roger Greenway, Tony McCauley and Barry Mason. It has acquired silver and gold disc awards, Grammy Awards, Music Hall Of Fame Awards Pioneer Awards and Life Time Achievement accomplishments. There have been more than 60 members who have come through its lineup from 1953 till the present. It has established 3 Golden eras of hit-making songs. Only In America epitomizes the dreams of most young men who came up in the age of the great vocal groups and who's ambitions make for great stories. Yes, you can be what you want to be even the President of The United States with hard work in this land of opportunity. Every story has it's beginning so it was with the Drifters and its rise from gospel roots on through rhythm and blues. The Drifters can also claim a unique place in popular music history as a major R & B group founded at the calling of a record label chief. Ahmet Ertegun (July 31 1923 – December 14, 2006) was a Turkish-American musician and businessman, best known as the founder and president of Atlantic Records, as a leader of the 1950's Rhythm & Blues revolution, and for discovering or championing artists like Eric Clapton; Phil Collins; Genesis; The Rolling Stones; Led Zeppelin; Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young; Aretha Franklin; Ray Charles; Yes; Frank Zappa; and more. In 1946, Ahmet Ertegun became friends with Herb Abramson, a dental student and A&R man for National Records, and they decided to start a new independent record label for gospel, jazz, and R&B music.





In 1949, after 22 unsuccessful record releases including the first recordings by Professor Longhair, Atlantic had its first major hit with Stick McGhee's "Drinkin' Wine Spo-Dee-O-Dee". The company expanded through the 1950s, with Jerry Wexler and, later, Nesuhi Ertegun on board as partners, and with hit artists including Ruth Brown, Joe Turner, The Clovers, The Drifters, The Coasters, and Ray Charles. Ertegun himself wrote a number of classic blues songs, including "Chains of Love" and "Sweet Sixteen", under the pseudonym **A. Nugetre** (*Ertegun* backwards). The songs were given expression first by Big Joe Turner and continued in B.B. King's repertoire. He also wrote the Ray Charles hit "Mess Around", with lyrics that drew heavily on "Pinetop's Boogie Woogie". He was briefly listed as **Nuggy** in the credits before changing to *A. Nugetre*. Ertegun was part of the shouting choral group on Turner's "Shake, Rattle and Roll", along with Wexler and songwriter Jesse Stone. Wikipedia

Other songs to his credit were Ting A Ling a 1956 hit for The Clovers and Don't play that Song, which was recorded by Aretha Franklin and Ben E. King. It was the vision of Ertegan and Wexler which inspired the Legend which became the Drifters of history. Formed around the masterful voice of Clyde McPhatter. The Drifters soared to number 1 with the hit "Money Honey" in 1953. A Hallmark in American entertainment, "Only In America" characterize what is truly and American brand. There is also a song Written by the Brill Building songwriters Jerry Leiber, Mike Stoller, Barry Mann and Cynthia Weil, this song was first recorded by The Drifters, with lead vocals by Rudy Lewis, who sang their hits "On Broadway" and "Up On The Roof." The song was written at a time before integration, and the lyrics were originally about racism. It had the following chorus: "Only in America, land of opportunity, can they save a seat in the back of the bus just for me. Only in America, Where they preach the Golden Rule, will they start to march when my kids go to school." Atlantic Records had a problem with the lyrics, so the songwriters changed them to be a satiric message of patriotism. The Drifters recorded the song with these new "patriotic" lyrics, but refused to release it because they did not believe that message.. Jay and The American later came and had a hit with the same song. Recording their vocals on the original backing tracks produced by Leiber and Stoller for The Drifters. The song was an immediate hit in Florida 1963.

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"Only In America"

Only in America Can a guy from
anywhere Go to sleep a pauper
and wake up a millionaire

Only in America Can a kid
without a cent Get a break and
maybe grow up to be President

Only in America Land of
opportunity, yeah Would a
classy girl like you fall for a
poor boy like me

Only in America Can a kid who's
washin' cars Take a giant step
and reach right up and touch
the stars

Only in America Could a dream
like this come true Could a guy
like me start with nothing and
end up with you

Only in America Land of
opportunity, yeah Would a
classy girl like you fall for a
poor boy like me

Only in America (poor boy like
me) Only in America (only in
America) Only in America (only
in America) Only in America
(only in America) Only in
America (only in America) Only
in America

Writer/s: Leiber, Jerry / Mann,
Barry / Weil, Cynthia / Stoller,
Mike Publisher: Sony/ATV
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