



The International Fan Club Magazine

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Spotlight On Ben E. King

D Legends

The Legacy Continues

Butch Leake

**D Legends[™]
Resurrection**

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The Legacy Continues



D Legends are made up of some of the most prestigious former members of the lineup from the different eras of the group's history including , Butch Leake Clyde Brown and Joe Blunt, who all performed or recorded on some of the group's biggest hits respectively during the the Bell / Arista period in the, 70's and 80's. Rick Sheppard, one of the last surviving members of the Atlantic Recording era rounds out the Legends experience. The Legends appeared as very special guests to the current lineup of The Drifters at an historic event at London's O2 Arena in 2009, which was promoted by Kennedy Street Enterprises. Lifetime achievement awards were presented to D Legends Joe Blunt and Butch Leake in recognition of the success of the group during the 1970's on the Bell Arista label. It was early 1970 when The Drifters managed by Faye Treadwell, widow to the legendary George Treadwell left Atlantic Records, which had been the home of the group during the earlier years of success, and moved to Bell Records (Now known as Arista Records as part of Sony BMG). The Drifters lineup now consisted of what became known as the classic group of the seventies. This line up featuring Butch went on to record three hugely successful albums and this era became known as the third 'Golden Period' of the Drifters legacy. During his time as a second tenor and baritone with the Drifters, Butch helped record the memorable hits 'Down on the Beach Tonight', 'Kissing in the Back Row of the Movies', 'Love Games' and 'There Goes My First Love', which topped the British and European charts in the early seventies. In 2012 Sony Music Gold Disc awards were awarded to D Legends Butch Leake, Clyde Brown and Joe Blunt for the CD "Up On The Roof" The Very Best Of selling 100, 000 units.





On January 24th 2012 in New York City after 27 years of absence from the musical charts, The Drifters Brand has gone Gold with a Sony Music release in the UK of 'The Drifters: The Very Best Of'. Selling over 100,000 units, the timed release has pushed the 60-year-old brand back into the spotlight prior to its Anniversary in 2013. The CD is a compilation of early Bell/Arista and Atlantic tracks with two new tracks recorded by the current Drifters lineup in the UK, but it is the strong catalogue particularly of the Bell/Arista years which is the foundation for the success of this CD. Most of the Bell/Arista tracks have never been released in the United States but were available for imports from Virgin Record stores for a number of years yet many US Drifter fans were not aware of them.

Gold Awards at Sony Music NY Front: Butch Leake, Lyn Koppe (Marketing) Joe Blunt Rear: John Jackson, (Vice President) A&R and content development.

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