

VASTI JACKSON

World renowned guitarist, and vocalist, Mississippi living blues legend, Cultural ambassador, 2012 Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame inductee, and 2015 Albert King Lifetime Guitar Award recipient, Vasti Jackson is a powerful force in the world of music! With more than **forty three years as a professional musician**. As an artist, Vasti is known for sweat-drenched, soul-ripping live performances marked by some of the most stunning, and innovative guitar playing today. Vasti's stellar vocals, fiery guitar, and stage presence captures the audience, and leaves a lasting impression that celebrates the triumph of the blues, and the joy of rhythm that is soul satisfying to all that are lucky enough to experience his music.

Question: What does **BB King, The Grammys, Harry Connick, Jr., Martin Scorsese, Wynton Marsalis, Dr. John, and Cassandra Wilson**, have in common? **Vasti Jackson!**

Vasti (**pronounced Vast-Eye**) Jackson is a consummate performer, songwriter, arranger, and producer. From his early beginnings playing in churches, and juke joints in McComb, Mississippi, to festivals, Concerts, and theatres around the world. Vasti move effortlessly from Blues to Soul to Jazz to Funk to gospel to pop, and beyond.

Below is a small overview of Vasti's incredible musical journey.

2016 The month of December brings the **Grammy nomination** of **"The Soul Of Jimmie Rodgers"** in the traditional blues category.

2016 The month of May brings release of his sixth CD **"The Soul Of Jimmie Rodgers"**. This body of work celebrates the powerful influence that the blues had on the father of country music in an acoustic setting with voice, and guitar. The disc reveals how country got the blues.

August 2016 Recording with **Dr. John, and Cyril Neville**.

July 2016 Feature performer at **Porretta Soul Festival** in Italy.

May 2016 featured actor, and musical performer the the theatrical presentation of **Jimmie Rodgers "America's Blue Yodeler"**.

April 2016 featured performer at the **National Blues Museum** grand

opening.

March 2016 featured performer at the **Grammy Museum Mississippi** grand opening.

January 2016 composed, performed, and filmed **"The Heart Of Americana"** music campaign.

October 2015 performed at the **United Nations**, and **The Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise**.

September 2015 performed on the **European Blues Cruise**, and featured in **Sharon McConnell's Life-Casts of legendary blues faces** at the **Grammy Museum**, in Cleveland, MS permanent exhibition.

July 2015 recording, and video of **"Ripple"** for **The Grateful Dead 50TH anniversary** with **Jimmy Buffet**, and **David Crosby**.

May-June 2015 tour of **South America**.

May 2015 performs **Best Of The Mississippi Blues**, Natchez, Mississippi.

April 2015 performs at **Byron Bay Blues festival**, Australia, **Conference on World Affairs** at Boulder, Colorado, and **Suncoast Blues Festival**, Sarasota, Florida.

March 2015 Cover of **Blues Blast Magazine**, and feature story.

February 2015 cover of **Living Blues Magazine**, and **Natchez Literary and Cinema Celebration**.

November 2014 composes, and records theme for the **Robert Mugge** film **"Zydeco Crossroads"**, and featured speaker, performer for www.ted.com, and **H. C Porter's Blues @ Home** exhibit.

October 2014 Performs at **United Nations**, **Association of International Educators**, and **Crescent City Blues and barbecue Festival**.

September 2014 Headlined **WellsFest** Jackson, Mississippi.

July 13, 2014 Appointed **cultural ambassador of Mississippi**.

2014 June-July **Peace Through Music World Tour** with **Playing For Change**.

2014 Feature performer, and speaker at **Conference on World Affairs**.

2014 Featured in Documentary **Mississippi, Birthplace of America's Music**.

2013 Image on **Blues Music Awards 2014** poster.

2013 Performed at the **United Nations** with **Playing For Change**.

2013 Release of **Newest CD "New Orleans, Rhythm Soul Blues"**.

2013 3rd time **Headlining New Orleans Music Festival, and residency in Austria**.

2013 Tour of **Austria, Germany, Holland, Poland, Argentina, Brazil, and Chile**.

2013 Filmed, and recorded music for the movie **"Blackbird"**.

2013 Filmed **'Three Face Of The Blues'** documentary.

2013 Performed at **Super Bowl XLVII**.

2012 November: Feature interview in www.thecountryblues.com.

2012 October: Filmed **Henry Rollins "Capitalism"** documentary, and coproduced the **Robert Johnson Crossroads** celebration concert.

2012 inductee into The **Mississippi Musicians Hall of Fame**.

2012 September: Filmed **Vasti Jackson Celebrates The Birthplace Of America's Music DVD**.

2012 September: Record, and film with **Playing For Change** for their upcoming **PFC3 Songs Around The World** CD, and video.

2012 August: **Tour of Brazil**.

2012 July: **Tour of Spain**.

2012 June: **Chicago Blues Festival**.

2012 April: Music producer **"Woman Thou Art Loosed"** (movie) T D Jakes, Blair Underwood, and Pam Grier.

2012 April: series 6 **"Treme"** HBO.

2012 March: **Robert Johnson at 100** New York.

2012 February: Chef **Andrew Zimmern** Travel Channel.

2011 October: Appeared in **Robert Mugge's "All Jam on Deck" Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise** documentary.

2011 June, performed the lead role in the play **Robert Johnson The Man, The myth, The music!**

2011 May, Robert Johnson Life & Legacy Expert Panel, centennial concert, and **New Orleans Jazz Festival.**

2011 April Selected as a **Mississippi living blues legend.**

2011 March, Performed at the **Mississippi State Capitol** for the Senate, and House of Representatives **proclamation honoring 2011 as the year of Robert Johnson.**

2011 February, Cover of **Jefferson Magazine.**

2011 February, filming for **HBO's Treme** series.

2010 November and December, **tour France, Belgium, Luxembourg, and Holland.**

2010 October, release new **"Stimulus Man" CD**, and special guest of **The Legendary Rhythm and Blues Cruise.**

2010 June, headlined **New Orleans Festival In Bregenz Austria**, July headlined **New Orleans Festival in Innsbruck Austria**, and August **Bourbon Street Music tour in Brazil.**

2010 Found Vasti in the studio producing for Kenny Neal (Blind Pig Records), and Marc Stone (Thread Head Records)

2009 Vasti toured Spain, Italy, Norway and Poland. And released his **"Mississippi Burner" CD.**

2008 Vasti performed in **Italy, Tunisia, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, Norway and England.**

2007 Vasti received the **best blues guitarist award West Coast Blues Hall of Fame.**

2007 Vasti produced New Orleans jazz chanteuse Lisa Lynn's "I'm No Angel" CD.

2006 Robert Mugge's Documentary "A Night At Club Ebony".

2006 Vasti won the **32nd Annual Jackson Music Awards Bottleneck Blues Bar Award.**

2006 Vasti appeared in the **Lifetime Television Network** film **"Infidelity"** that featured his composition **"Casino In The Cotton field".**

2005 Vasti appeared in the **Robert Mugge documentary Memphis Blues Again.**

2005 Vasti performed as the balladeer in the **Mississippi Opera** production of **"Gospel At Colonus".**

2004 Vasti produced and composed for New Orleans piano legend Henry Butler's **"Homeland" CD** for Basin Street Records.

2003 Vasti was featured the **Robert Mugge documentary "Blues Breaks".**

2003 Vasti was featured in **Martin Scorsese** seven part documentary **"THE BLUES"** performing an original titled **"Train Rolling Blues"**.

2003 Vasti also composed and performed **"America, Proud and Strong"** with the **Mississippi Symphony Orchestra** and a 1,500-voice choir, for the Mississippi Public Broadcasting presentation, **Mississippi, The Birthplace of America's Music.**

2002 Vasti was featured as Narrator, composer, and performer in the, **Robert Mugge Documentary "Last of the Mississippi Jukes", Starz Encore Cable.**

2002 Recorded on **Cassandra Wilson's "Belly Of The Sun"** CD which received Grammy Nomination for best jazz vocal.

2001 Vasti coproduced the **Bobby Rush "Hoochie Man"** CD that was **nominated for the 2001 Grammy Award for Best Contemporary Blues recording.**

2000 Presentation of **Robert Johnson** music for Robert Johnson's induction into the **Mississippi Musicians Hall of fame.**

1999 Vasti was featured actor, musical director, and compose two songs and for the film **Stop Breakin' Down.**

1998 Vasti formed **Roots Gospel Voices Of Mississippi**, release the **"Rooted and Real"** CD, and tour Italy, Germany, Sicily, Switzerland, and Spain.

Vasti's talent has been enlarged by an amazing array of musical experiences throughout his vibrant career.

Jackson's Recordings **"No Borders to the Blues", "Live In Nashville" and "Mississippi Burner"** present audio buffet of Vasti's limitless energy and boundless imagination. It spotlights his talents as singer, and composer, and his utterly thrilling guitar mastery.

Rooted in the music of Mississippi, and Louisiana Vasti Jackson recorded on **B.B. King's Grammy award winning Blues Summit in 1994.** In the 1980s and early 1990s Vasti was session guitarist for Malaco Records (Mississippi) and Alligator Records (Chicago). Musical director, and guitarist ZZ Hill, Johnnie Taylor, Denise LaSalle, Little Milton, Bobby Bland, and Swamp queen Katie Webster. He also worked with gospel greats - including the Williams Brothers, The Jackson Southernaires, and Daryl Coley.

In **1993** Vasti called upon by Hoyett Owens of 'I Like It Communications' to serve as musical director for the nationally syndicated television show **"Blues Goin' On"**.

Festivals and international tours have taken him to Belgium, Japan, Germany, Lithuania, Ukraine, France, Greece, South Africa, Holland,

Sweden, Poland, Uruguay, Argentina, Spain, Switzerland, Italy, Sicily, Norway, Finland, England, Ireland, Tunisia, Uruguay, Brazil, and Portugal.

Vasti Jackson has been featured in **Guitar Player Magazine, Living Blues, Back To The Roots, Nothing But The Blues, Juke Blues (England), Blues Revue**, and many other publications. He has performed on Dan Akroyd's House of Blues Radio Hour, the Starz Encore Network, WGN-TV in Chicago, and PBS. He has performed, written, produced, and recorded music for **HBO, VH1, Mississippi Educational Television, the British Broadcasting Corp. (BBC)**, and radio and television programs in Australia, Uruguay, Finland, and Canada.

Vasti Jackson is professionalism at its best. He is a combination of talent, broad experience and versatility. His soulful and energetic performance will take your audience on a journey they will never forget.

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