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You may not recognize **Curtis King Jr.** as a household name, but it's certain that you've brought his voice home on your favorite top-40 albums throughout his astounding thirty-plus year career. Curtis has made his mark as one of the most sought-after background singers and vocal arrangers in the world, lending his voice to hundreds of Gold and Platinum recordings and performing with artists such as **Duran Duran, Michael Jackson, David Bowie, James Brown, Meatloaf, Madonna, and Luciano Pavarotti.**

Currently a member of **Bruce Springsteen's E-Street Band**, Curtis stands out on stages, bold and charismatic, among ensembles of singers. While traveling for notable performances like Live-Aid in 1985 and Hyde Park in 2012, Curtis got the call for what seemed like every session date and tour in between. A tenured all-star guest for the bands of **David Letterman** and **Saturday Night Live** and the voice of thousands of jingles nationwide, Curtis has created a dream-come-true career based on faith and humility; two of many qualities that outline the theme for his long-awaited debut solo album, "**Changing Face.**"

Raised in Tallahassee, Florida, but born in Philadelphia amidst the inspiring time of 'Sweet Philly soul,' Curtis' love for music began during a period "where all races crossed over, and music became one." Following in the footsteps of his highly accomplished and musically educated parents - his mother, a concert pianist, and father, an operatic tenor - Curtis' initial focus was the French horn. While classical music and jazz regularly filled the household, Curtis eventually found himself behind drums, bass, guitar, and piano discovering Motown and The Beatles. "When I saw them on TV at Shea Stadium, that's what I wanted to do," Curtis reflects. "I didn't know how to get there, but it's where I wanted to be."

Earning his stripes on weekend gigs with his father gave Curtis a jumpstart as he found himself on stage with musicians beyond his years, but it wasn't until high school when singing became an outlet for his new love of songwriting.

Drawing influences from artists like Russell Thompkins Jr. of The Stylistics, Curtis aspired to be a songwriter, recording demos for feedback and ultimately seeking major label attention. He also accepted a scholarship to St. Leo University, where he not only earned his BA in music but also gained the confidence from positive accolades of industry execs and peers to consider singing and writing full-time.

Curtis relocated to NYC at its peak, in 1977 with songwriting partner and hometown friend **Darryl Tookes**, instantly beginning the next chapter in his burgeoning career. The two started turning the heads of legends like **Luther Vandross** and **Todd Rundgren.**

They were playing a nightly residency at Manhattan club Home and gaining big-time studio experience with early mentor "Moogy" **Mark Clingman**, when the pair were discovered and hired by **Roberta Flack.** "She taught me how to fill in all the gaps of any chord," Curtis humbly expresses. "It was the school of Flack." That education allowed Curtis to work with names such as **Billy Ocean, Cinderella** and thousands of artists encompassing genres in between.

"It was exactly where I wanted to be," says Curtis, who took to being on the road, easing his way from one act to the next. "I love being on tour but I equally love creating, and that's why going back and forth from the road to the studio is so seamless. It's all for love." Curtis'

dedication and grounded nature kept engineers and producers calling, but more importantly, supporting his creative endeavors as he built relationships with some of the best in the game. One being Grammy Award Winning engineer **Butch Jones**...

**"Changing Face"** took its first step from creative dream to reality in 2014, when Curtis appeased Jones' long-standing request to sit down in the studio as a solo artist. Drawing on songs written years earlier, even as far back as his high school years ("Shine"), Curtis developed a unique, individual sound with his new material. Standout track "No Sign of Religion", a 'call to God' message backed by tribal beats, exemplifies his ethnic sound and lyrics that resonate with listeners in trying times. Two covers, "Can't Buy Me Love" and "My Love", are given Curtis' distinctive touch, while paying tribute to friend and former collaborator **Sir Paul McCartney**.

Co-produced by **Butch Jones** of **825 Records**, the album takes a journey through genres, while keeping a common theme of compassion and empathy. "Nothing About My heart" combines horns and harmonies for a feel-good time that makes it impossible to sit still. The piano takes center stage on "If I Had The Right", a timeless expression of love and emotion, while "Wildest Dreams" takes its cues from Curtis' inbred Philly soul influence, creating a seductive atmosphere. The album continues with velvet smooth vocals that betray an undeniable sense of passion, not only for music, but for life.

Stepping out from behind the scenes, Curtis looks to his multicultural background for inspiration, building new material around an inimitable combination of Afro-centric rhythms, jazz musicianship, and soulful lyrics. His experiences in the studio and on stage with countless legends of the music industry have given Curtis the privilege of a wide range of influence and the ability to master multiple genres. With **"Changing Face"**, he finds his long-awaited, widely anticipated solo sound.

## PROMOTIONAL COPY

arranged & performed by CURTIS KING JR  
produced by CURTIS KING JR & BUTCH JONES  
engineered, mixed, & mastered by BUTCH JONES



### 1 little feet | 0:54

CURTIS KING JR

### 2 can't buy me love | 2:21

LENNON/MCCARTNEY

### 3 nothing about my heart | 5:15

CURTIS KING JR / DOUG HALL

### 4 if i had the right | 3:40

CURTIS KING JR

### 5 no sign of religion | 4:14

CURTIS KING JR / KEITH FOLEY

### 6 wildest dreams | 5:15

CURTIS KING JR

### 7 still looking for you | 4:00

CURTIS KING JR

### 8 my love | 5:22

PAUL MCCARTNEY

### 9 come get to this | 4:10

MARVIN GAYE

### 10 living in color | 5:42

CURTIS KING JR

### 11 shine | 4:00

CURTIS KING JR

### 12 dayo | 1:28

CURTIS KING JR

### 13 changing face | 4:43

CURTIS KING JR / KEITH FOLEY

### 14 grateful | 3:20

CURTIS KING JR

### 15 vocalscape | 0:46

CURTIS KING JR

## FEATURING

abe fogel / anthony jackson / angelique kidjo / angela clemmons / bashiri johnson / bernard wright / charlie giordano / cindy mizelle / darryl tookes / david barratt / dennis collins / eric brown / fonzi thornton / gerry brooks / greg g peller / ira siegel / ivan hampton / jeff bova / jeff young / joe lindsay / keith foley / kevin "kalimbaman" spears / larry saltzman / leon pendavis / lisa fischer / mark williams / michael giro / nick moroch / nick rolf / omar hakim / philippe saisse / rodney shelton / steve kroon / tawatha agee / v. jeffrey smith / vaneese thomas / victor bailey / vivian cherry

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## CHANGING FACE CURTIS KING JR