

**DUSABLE  
MUSEUM**  
OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY

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**“100 PLUS ONE: BEFORE MOTOWN AND BEYOND”  
A UNIQUE EXHIBITION CELEBRATING THE  
HISTORY OF RECORDED MUSIC  
TO OPEN AT THE DUSABLE MUSEUM  
ON JUNE 30, 2005**

Chicago, IL. (1 May 2005) - **From Thomas Dorsey and Muddy Waters to Aretha Franklin and Erykah Badu, . . . and from James Brown and Elvis Presley to Michael Jackson and Usher, . . . the first exhibition of its kind which celebrates and documents all musical genres, “100 PLUS ONE: BEFORE MOTOWN AND BEYOND,” is scheduled to open at the DuSable Museum of African American History on Monday, June 30, 2005 and continue through Monday, October 3, 2005. The Museum is located at 740 East 56<sup>th</sup> Place (57<sup>th</sup> Street at South Cottage Grove Avenue) in Chicago’s Washington Park.**

The exhibition which was produced and curated by the nationally renowned Attorney, Gregory J Reed, focuses on the music, legendary artists, art forms, culture, politics and economics that have formed the industry of music. It connects the social history conditions of each decade with the recording artists and their music while blending and including the moods and tones of America. The exhibition is comprehensive and original covering everything from Negro spirituals, ragtime, blues and jazz, to the Motown era, disco, rap, hip-hop and even techno music.

**“100 PLUS ONE: BEFORE MOTOWN AND BEYOND”** contains more than 250 rare artifacts, selected from the collection of The Keeper of the Word Foundation, a Detroit-based organization whose commitment is to perpetuate the legacy of artists, authors and activists. These materials tell the story of music in America. Objects, documents, words, photographs, original hand written studio lyric sheets and master recordings, royalty statements, recording contracts, posters, costumes, budget reports and “Gold Records,” are all included in the exhibition to tell the story of America’s original music. It highlights the people, companies, producers, and trailblazers that have helped to make the music industry what it is.

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**“100 PLUS ONE”- TO OPEN AT DUSABLE MUSEUM  
ADD ONE**

**“100 PLUS ONE: BEFORE MOTOWN AND BEYOND”** pays tribute to the African-American music pioneers such as Vivian Carter, founder of Vee Jay Records of Chicago, who pioneered the first multi-million dollar Black record company by signing The Four Seasons, The Impressions, Jerry Butler, Gene Chandler and The Beatles, long before Berry Gordy launched Motown Records. The exhibition also focuses on musical greats such as: Bessie Smith, W.C. Handy, Louis Armstrong, Muddy Waters, Charlie Parker, James Brown, Aretha Franklin, The Last Poets, Michael Jackson, The Sugar Hill Gang, Mary J. Blige, and Erykah Badu, in addition to many others who contributed to the evolution of the music of America.

One of the highlights of the exhibition is an “In Memorium” section which includes a book of prayers and a memorial quilt designed by the artist Quasim Johnston, which highlights the lives of artists who have contributed to the musical community including the late Ray Charles, Barry White, James Jamerson, Elvis Presley, Sam Cooke, Marvin Gaye, Aliyah, The Notorious B.I.G. and Tupac Shakur.

The exhibition curator Gregory J. Reed says, “This exhibition is empowering and celebrates the strong heritage that we have within our music. It’s a musical journey which helps to remind us where we have been and where we are headed. The history of African-American music in America is the history of America itself! The two are inextricably connected.”

**Gregory J. Reed, Esq.**, has been an active practitioner in the legal profession for twenty years. His clients are preeminent in their fields and his professional and civic contributions carry national and international significance. His fields of speciality in the legal profession include sports, entertainment, corporate and tax law. He is the author of twelve books, many of which are award winners, best sellers and used extensively throughout professional and educational communities. He is one of the professional pioneers in the area of sports and entertainment law and has produced and represented Broadway plays and national touring companies. He has lectured widely at universities throughout the United States and abroad and has appeared on major U.S. television networks, cable outlets and radio talk shows.

**“100 PLUS ONE: BEFORE MOTOWN AND BEYOND”** is made possible in part by, Jewel Foods, Chicago Park District, Coca-Cola, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs CityArtsIII Program, The Mayor’s Office of Special Events, United Airlines, Clear Channel Radio, and the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

The DuSable Museum of African American History, one of the oldest institutions of its kind in the country, has been dedicated to the collection, preservation, interpretation and dissemination of the history and culture of Africans and Americans of African descent for 42 years. For more information on the Museum and its programs, please call (773) 947-0600 or you may visit our website at [www.dusablemuseum.org](http://www.dusablemuseum.org).