

Entertainer of the Month Derrick Herring

at the Big Chill and the Island Grill

It is truly a privilege to have Derrick Herring as Entertainer of the Month, to live in the fabulous Florida Keys that allows me to be able to listen to him live whenever I want and to know this kind, gentle soul that is to music what Jimmy Johnson is to football. Last year Jimmy Hawkins highly recommended Derrick to me. I listen to his music at least twice a week but I had no idea how famous he is until now.

Derrick Herring, also known as "D", has been playing piano and keyboards, and performing since the age of six. During high school he played and performed in a jazz ensemble band in Ft.Lauderdale, FL. After completing high school he left his musical roots to study computers at Tampa Technical Institute. Upon completion of the program he decided he needed to return back home. He needed to play music again.

He formed a local band by the name of Taste of Delight, "T.O.D". The band played the local circuit performing various rhythm and blues songs as well as jazz. During this time he learned much about stage performance and showmanship. After two years performing the local scene, national blues recording artist and two-time North American blues artist contest winner Joey Gilmore saw him perform and took him under his wing. For the next five years Derrick played all over the world, touring the entire east coast of the United States, Switzerland and Germany. During this time he had the pleasure of opening for such acts as Stax label

recording artist, William Bell, Kool & The Gang, K.C. and the Sunshine Band and R&B vocalist, Betty Pageant. Upon returning from one of their tours, Derrick had the opportunity with Joey Gilmore



and the T.C.B. (Takin' Care of Business) Express Band to open up for the multi-talented blues artist Lucky Peterson. He was in awe of Lucky's mastering of the organ, piano, and electric guitar. Lucky mixed blues with jazz, creating a unique and powerful style of blues.

After the completion of his last tour with Joey Gilmore, Derrick decided he needed to try a different direction in music. He began touring in Asia with the band Maximum Drive. The band consisted of various musical talents and played for

several years throughout Asia. The longest period of this tour was spent in Hong Kong at the infamous Club JJ's, which is owned by Grand Hyatt Hotels Inc. They toured such places as the Phillipines, Thailand,

Macau, and Red China. At the end of this contract Derrick returned to the United States and began playing with a rock variety band known as Vendetta for three years. The band consisted of some of the internationally-known band Saigon Kick. During his time with this band he opened for the late great Clarence Clemens, the saxophone player for world-renowned recording artist, Bruce Springsteen and the E. Street Band. Derrick also opened for Artimus Pyle, the former drummer from the

rock band legend, Lynard Skynard.

Once again Derrick needed a change. He returned to the Keys to join local band called Cool Breeze. The band performed many different styles of music such as reggae, funk, rock etc. While performing with Cool Breeze he also toured with the recording group Black Bean Soup, a band that consisted of former members of K.C., Sly and the Family Stone, and the Whailers. They toured both coasts of the US, and Hawaii. Derrick also played the South Florida casino circuit, performing with Johnny O, former percussionist and song writer of the '70s funk band Instant Funk at the world famous Hard Rock Casino.

Currently, Derrick is performing solo at various local venues including the Island Grill in Islamorada and Jimmy Johnson's Big Chill in Key Largo. During his musical career he developed a singing style which mimics the soulful vocals of Jackie Wilson, Marvin Gaye, Sam Cooke, Prince, James Brown and Frankie Lymon. He also performs other genres of music, songs of Billy Joel, Elton John. Bob Marley and Keys music such as Jimmy Buffet, Zac Brown Band etc. Derrick is currently working on his website but you can reach him at 954-591-4935. For the best music the Keys has to offer join me and stop by the Big Chill on a Friday night to listen to Derrick Herring and Jimmy Ray play. Sometimes Jimmy Hawkins stops by and sits in. It doesn't get any better than this, folks!

Evolution of the Soul Life Lessons through Reincarnation

Often we reincarnate on earth with our soul family and often our most intense relationships are with our soul family.

You meet someone for the first time and feel as if you know them already. You're in a town that you've never been to before, yet you recognize streets and buildings. You start playing a new sport and amaze everyone, including yourself, at your natural abilities and intuitive knowing of the rules. We often describe such experiences as déj vu: the experience or feeling that a new situation has happened to us before. Then again, the possibility does exist that we have actually lived these experiences in the past or, rather, in another lifetime.

Many spiritual practices believe that reincarnation is real: Our souls return to this earth over a series of lifetimes to evolve, learn, grow, transform, and become more spiritually attuned through the course of each life. When we reincarnate, it is believed that we tend to cycle through our different lives with many of the same people. Often these traveling "soul" companions are the ones we enter into relationships with; we work through our unresolved issues together so that we may heal. When we struggle or keep encountering blocks that keep us from reaching our goals, there may be a specific

lesson that we are supposed to learn in this lifetime. Being naturally blessed with a musical talent or another gift can be a special ability that you worked hard to develop in a past life. You may even have lived before as another gender or as part of a different social or economic class. Each lifetime brings with it specific lessons that are necessary for our spiritual evolution.

Past life recall can give us valuable insights into our past, present, and future lives. The knowledge of how we lived before can help us overcome present obstacles, understand phobias, and resolve relationship issues. There are workshops you can take to learn about past lives, and past life regression therapists can guide you on your journey backward in time. You can learn to visit your past lives through your dreams, meditation, and trance work. It is even possible to see full scenes of a former lifetime flash before you in your mind's eye as if you were watching a movie. While looking back at your past lives can be exciting and enlightening, it is important to remember that the answers you are seeking to this life can only truly be found by living this one. Look to your past to see where you've been, but remember that the life that matters most is the one that you are living now.

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