

Artists ~ Saturday August 5



Mighty Mystic & The Hard Roots Movement ~ 11:00

Performing what he calls "hard roots" Reggae, Mighty Mystic, who was born in Jamaica and grew up in Boston has a style that incorporates elements of Hip-hop and Rock that makes for a powerful stage show. The group has been hitting the road hard, touring the US extensively, performing songs like "Cali Green" a cannabis tune classic that has been featured on television and in documentary film. His latest album is the 2016 release *The Art Of Balance*.



Ojo de Buey ~ 12:35

Hailing from Costa Rica, this group brings the "pura vida" concept and fuses Reggae with other Afro-Caribbean rhythms such as Salsa as well as Rock and Electronica. Singing in both Spanish and English, the band formed in 2007 releasing originals that cover a vast range of social issues and topics from everyday life like personal struggles and relationships. Originally a group of friends who got together to play at parties and events, they eventually decided to record and pursue a band concept. They've performed at numerous festivals outside of their country including Cali Roots where they had the crowd feeling the vibes. A horn section, percussion, searing guitar lines, harmonies and various members on lead vocals contribute to a big sound on stage.



Nkulee Dube ~ 2:10

Making her third festival appearance at ROTR 2017, Ms Dube is the daughter of the late Reggae artist Lucky Dube from South Africa and she continues his important legacy. Her original music mixes the sounds of Reggae with Soul and Jazz performed and recorded with a band comprised of highly skilled musicians that form a natural synergy with the artist's soaring vocals. Songs like her debut single "Who Dem" uplift the Rasta lifestyle. In the live setting she performs select songs from her father's extensive catalog in tribute to his body of work as a freedom fighter and pioneer in modern African music. Getting her start as a backup singer and dancer with Jazz and Afro-pop artists, a dynamic stage presentation is what's in store. She'll be performing with the Rootz Warriors band at ROTR 2017.



Warrior King & Rootz Warriors ~ 3:20

Part of the next wave of "cultural" artists that came on the Jamaican Reggae scene in the early 2000's, Warrior King's 2001 debut album *Virtuous Woman* was an epic set that offered a welcome respite from the slackness Dancehall music of the late 90's and ushered in a return to the one drop rhythm, setting the pace for cultural singjay type of chanting to thrive. Songs like "Hold Da Faith", "Breath of Fresh Air", "Jah Is Always There" & "Never Go Where Pagans Go" became mainstays on playlists worldwide and jettisoned the artist to international stages. His 2005 follow up album *Hold Da Faith* with its singles "Can't Get Me Down" & "Breath of Fresh Air" encouraged the downtrodden to stay strong in the midst of perilous times. His most recent release is the 14-song set entitled *The Rootz Warrior*. First appearing at ROTR in 2004 and again in 2008, he performs with the Rootz Warriors band in this highly-anticipated set from an artist who has not toured to the area for a number of years.



Culture featuring Kenyatta Hill ~ 4:50

A group formed during the golden age of Jamaican Reggae, Rolling Stone magazine included their seminal 1977 recording *Two Seven's Clash* on its "50 Coolest Records Ever Made" list in 2002, its the only Reggae album present. This year marks the 40th anniversary of the release of the album. The group's impact on Reggae music is massive, after a performance at the historic *One Love Peace Concert* in 1978 Kingston, they began what would become a rigorous touring schedule throughout the globe including numerous tours to several African countries. The 1979 single and album *International Herb* would become anthemic to the legalization cause globally with its album art featuring marijuana plants, which generated controversy. Joseph "Culture" Hill sang lead and wrote much of the massive set of material, original founding member and cousin to Mr. Hill, Albert Walker and longtime harmony singer Telford Nelson carry on after his death in 2006 by performing with his son Kenyatta Hill who continues the Culture legacy. The nuances of Kenyatta's voice as well as his mannerisms remind audiences of his late father. Influenced by elements of Dancehall, grounded in the roots tradition and motivated to carry on his father's work, Kenyatta released the album *Pass The Torch* in 2007, it includes finished songs that Joseph had started and is considered a collector's item. He's also released a ten song set of originals as a solo album entitled *Riddim Of Life* (2014).



Prestige ~ 6:30

Coming from Jamaica is a prolific songwriter and vocalist that works to present songs with uplifting messages speaking out against violence and the effects of oppression, his most recent single "They Don't Give" addresses the hypocrisy of the system. Initially deejaying under the name of Presley (think Elvis Presley), he recorded his first tune in 1994 with the legendary Black Scorpio Records in Jamaica. That same year, Prestige gave up meat, focused on a healthier lifestyle and chose to live more harmoniously with people and the environment. His single "He That Seek" was featured on the *2015 Reggae on the River Collection* album, it makes the case for justice with the lyric "he that seeks will find, clean hands no bad mind."



Ken Boothe ~ 6:50

Considered the "Wilson Pickett of Jamaican music" Mr. Boothe is a living legend who got his start during Reggae's genesis, in the Rocksteady sound of the 1960's with his distinctive vibrato vocal style that topped the charts both in Jamaica and in the United Kingdom. His single "Freedom Street" released in 1970, aimed to unite the political factions in Jamaica's post independence turmoil by imploring his fellow citizens to respect each other and "work things out intelligently". In 1974 Ken Boothe covered the song "Everything I Own" voicing it over a Reggae rhythm - it was originally recorded by David Gates from the '70's Rock group Bread. The single led him to the top of the UK charts. His first recordings were as part of duets and trios, but in 1966 he was signed to Studio One as a solo artist and his first hit "The Train Is Coming" with its driving syncopation was actually re-recorded with Shaggy and included on the soundtrack to the 1995 feature film *Money Train*. In 2003 Mr. Boothe was awarded the Jamaica *Order of Distinction* for his contribution to Jamaican music. His most recent release is the 2012 *Journey* album. Expect a powerful vocal delivery and commanding stage presence from this 50-year veteran in Reggae.



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