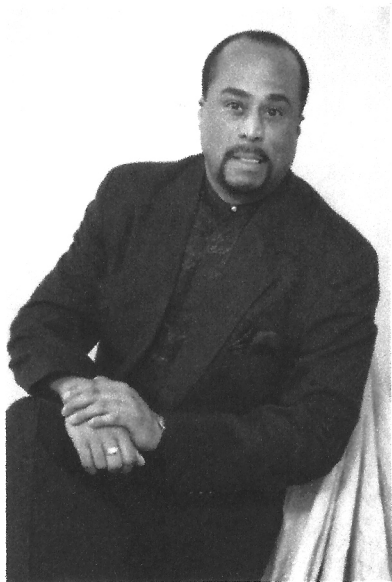


LARRY BLAND



LIMITED ADVANCE RELEASE

*Got To Keep Moving*

**This Production is dedicated to the memory of my parents, The Late Andrew James Bland, Sr. and the Late Sarah E. Bland Parker. Special Dedication to My Beloved Brother, Andrew James Bland, Jr., without whose support this could not have been done, and likewise to my Soul Mate, Karen R. Smith. Special Thanks to My Friend, and Producer of this project, Steve Bassett, for his unselfish sacrifice of time and energy, and likewise to the engineering genius of Grant Rutledge, Montana Studios (Richmond, VA) without whom this could not have ever happened. Love to my extended family at 2209 for the meals, the laughs and the unconditional support throughout the years.**

**Intro: For close to half a century, there have been many aspects of my life's experiences that have affected my music ministry. Thanks be unto God for them all! It is my intent, through this recorded project, to celebrate the diversity of all the parts which have and continue to make me a whole person and musician. None can be singularly selected that have had greater impact, however, what has steered and ruled them all is my profound belief that they all have been divinely led by God's presence in and around my existence.**

**Taken from my theatrical experiences, this has become my life's theme ...**

**1. "Got To Keep Moving"**

**Written by Micki Grant Ninette Carroll from the musical "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope" arr. Bland Recognizing the close relationship and influence Gospel music has had on secular music, and vice-versa, along with the need to explore new musical horizons for growth, I introduce an original song with the favor of the pop music genre ...**

**2. "If You Believe In Him"**

**Written by Rick Darnell Steve Bassett, arr. Bland - So many pioneers in gospel music, so many creative minds. Early on, the music of the Late James Cleveland, and the incomparable Andre Crouch affected me deeply. As a salute to them and in remembrance of Annette, Arvin, Billy, Buddy, Harold, Randy, Sharon, and Rosa "Nana" Ruffin...**

**3. "My Tribute"**

**Written by Andre Crouch/arr. Bland - The loss of loved ones has created many challenges in my life that have collectively given me strength and determination to keep on keeping on. I dedicate the next dip from the Crouch collection (one of my all time favorites) to the memory of Grandmother Betty Cook, Aunts Rosa, Lillie and Lupenia, Unde Richard, Cousin Ricky and my Dear Sister Marian E. Davis ...**

**4. "Soon and Very Soon"**

**Written by Andre Crouch/arr. Bland - Representing my unforgettable education experience at Maggie L. Walker High School (1968-1971), lunder the directorship of The Late Robert J. Jones, Jr., and at Virginia State College (1971-1977), under the leadership of Dr. Carl G. Harris, Jr., a sampling of the Negro Spirituals is very fitting, and also in salute to the "tough-love" music analysis instructions from my dear Professor Mamon Morrison.**

**5. "Sometimes I Feel Like A Motherless Child"**

**Traditional arr. Bland**

**6. "Hold On Just A Little While Longer"**

**Traditional / arr. Bland**

Highlighting one of the Great Hymns of the Church, and in salute to worship leader Deacon Benjamin Wall, and my first staging director J.W. Robinson Horne..

**7. "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"**

**Words: Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960) Tune: William M. Runyan (1870-1957) Celebrating the richness of my history with Second Baptist Church (Richmond, VA), and dedicated to the memory of The Late Reverend Doctor Odie Davis Brown, my hero, hear the song that stirred us all on 4th Sunday mornings ...**

**8. "Lift Him Up"**

**Words: Johnson Oatman, Jr. (1866-1926) Tune: B.B. Beall / Arr. Bland A 1973 car accident injured me extensively, resulting in restructuring and skin grafting to my left arm In salute to the Surgeons, Doctors, Specialists, Nurses at Richmond's MCV Hospital, and especially to the memory of my nurse The Late Jean Moore, and likewise treasuring the bond I have with my dear Brother, Andrew J. Bland, Jr. ...**

**9. "God Won't Leave Me"**

**Based on "Never Alone" Words and Tune - Anonymous Additional Words and Original Chorus: Bland As a lasting musical monument to the tradition and pioneering spirit of all members of "The Gospel Six" (circa. 1967-1971), and all my children of "The Volunteer Choir" (circa. 1971-1996), and dedicated to the memory of all members who have gone on to be with God. Also, with special love to my dear Godsons, Daemione and DeVan Hooker and in special recognition to Richmond Treasure, Marie Goodman Hunter ...**

**10. "Jesus Christ Is The Way"**

**Written by Andre Crouch/arr. Bland In loving memory of my dear mother, Sarah Bland Parker, whose struggles and sacrifices have made me who I am, and likewise in memory of my first piano teacher, The Late Mrs. Betty Ked...**

**11. "It Is Well With My Soul"**

**Words: Horatio G. Spafford (1828-1888) Tune: Phillip P. Bliss Many radio announcers and station owners, including "Tiger Tom Mitchell" (WANT), "Brother Jim Carter" (WENZ), Cavell Phillips (Radio One Richmond), Dr. Johnny J. Branch, Eric Jones and Preston Brown (WCLM), and Eric E. Stanley, have assisted me in getting my music heard, but none stronger than Patrick Ellis (WHUR Radio, Washington, D.C.). As a tribute to your support and as a special dedication to the memory of The Late Doris Ann Allen and also, in memory of Mamie Bledsoe...**

**12. "Last Mile Of The Way"**

**Words: Johnson Oatman Jr. 1836 - 1926 Tune: William Edie Marks During my travels internationally, as a part of the best professional work experience of my life at Discovery Communications, Inc., I would often contemplate the state of world affairs. I culminate this recording project, saluting all my colleagues at Discovery Worldwide and at The British Broadcasting Corporation, especially to Bob Wise and Olga Edridge. I extend my sincere prayer for world peace and love.**

**13. "What We Need In The World Today" - Written and arranged by Larry Bland**

**FORWARD VOCALS:** Steve Bassett, Larry Bland, Karen Smith

**BACKGROUND VOCALS:** "The VC Ensemble"

**Sopranos;** Tonya Brooks, Germaine Bryant, Darlene Campbell, Jacqueline R. German, Ethel Johnson, Vivian Jones, Yvette Walker, Althea White

**Altos:** Camilla Alexander, Sandra Antoine, Althea Johnathan, Deborah A. Lundy, Karen Smith, Veola Thomas, Gloria Williams

**Tenors:** Samuel Barnes, Jr., Beverly Dunaway, Kevin Holmes, Alesia Johnson

**Basses:** Steve Bassett, Mark Southall

**MUSICIANS:** Piano - Larry Bland Organ / Steve Bassett/Larry Bland / Bass Guitar - James Powell / Drums - Jody Boyd / Lead Guitar - "The Got To Keep Moving" / Randy Moss / Lead Guitar - "If You Believe In Him"; "What We Need In The World Today" / Clement Burnette, Sr. Percussionist / Gabo Tomasini - Triton Keys Engineering - Brandon Briscoe, Sr. / Production Assistance Jenny Bassett

With my sincere thanks and gratitude! Vocals & Musicians On "God Won't Leave Me" and "Last Mile Of The Way", presented from the original recording of "I'M SAVED" by Larry Bland and The Volunteer Choir: Piano - Larry Bland / Lloyd Robinson Christian - Synthesizer / Steve Bassett - Organ / Lead Guitar - Willie Ross / Eric Heiberg - Synclavier / Bass Guitar - James Powell / Percussionist - Ronnie Cokes

**ENGINEERS:** Grant Rutledge and Brandon Jackson Cover Concept: Bassett/Bland / Photography - Sharif Talib

**EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS:** Steve Bassett, Grant Rutledge

Recorded at: Montana Studios, Richmond, Virginia

**DISTRIBUTION ASSISTANCE:** Sonrise Productions, LLC P.O. Box 29188 Baltimore, Maryland 21205 (410) 665-5662 / Mr. Robert Epps, "Thanks Lil Brother"

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**A SPECIAL SALUTE TO:** Dogwood Dell Staff and Volunteers, and THE ENTIRE CITY OF RICHMOND, VA. COMMUNITY. There are, of course, many, many others who have supported me over the years and specifically for this endeavor. I only hope and pray that I have not overlooked anyone who has been instrumental. Please forgive me if there is a slip of the mind and please know that it is not a slip of the heart. I LOVE YOU ALL

**Produced by Larry Bland, Steve Bassett and Grant Rutledge**

**Recorded at Montana Inc. - Richmond, Virginia**