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Posted - 08/08/2007 : 01:41:03



Came across this article and thought some of you might find it interesting..i did. 😊..Dusty seems to pop up in a variety of places these days.

paula x

USA
5012 Posts

Zimbabwe: The Springfields - Launch Pads for Great Musicians

Published by the government of Zimbabwe

The Herald (Harare)
18 July 2007
Posted to the web 18 July 2007
Harare

THERE were two music groups called The Springfields in the 60s. One was a British pop-folk group and the other was a Rhodesian-based group that hailed from Harare (now Mbare) suburb. Although the groups were miles apart, they both were launch pads for musicians who later attained international fame.

The British Springfields was a vocal trio whose music did quite well in both Ireland, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. It was the group that Dusty Springfield used to launch her illustrious career in as much as the Rhodesian Springfields saw the rise of Thomas Mapfumo. The British Springfields saw the rise of Mary O'Brien, her brother Dion O'Brien and Tim Field in as much as the Rhodesian Springfields saw the rise of Timothy Makaya, Chris Chabuka and Manu Kambani. While the British Springfields was a vocal trio, the Rhodesian Springfields had more than three members at a time and specialised in playing cover versions of either USA or UK music.

Doc Pomus wrote one of the songs, Lonely Avenue, which Mapfumo recorded with the backing of the Rhodesian-based Springfields. The late Ray Charles also did the same song as a rhythm and blues number in 1956.

During the time of the two Springfields, there were other great groups. The British Springfields' single Silver Threads and Golden Needles stayed in the US Top 20 longer than any Beatles' song at the time. In Rhodesia, the Springfields tussled heavily with groups such as the Great Sounds, whose song Ano Waya Ane Waya, among others, was doing well. During the time, The Rhodesian Springfields released singles that included You Can't Say Goodbye, Chemutengure, Kiss Me, Talking String, Kunaka Wakanaka, Shungu Dzino Ndibaya, Valley of Lost Souls, Sunday Morning, Springfields Go Latin and Instrumental Kuwela.

On the other hand, the British Springfields released Dear John in 1961, Breakaway, Bambino, Silver Threads and Golden Needles and their biggest ever hit Island of Dreams as well as Say I Won't Be There.

Then came the breaking moment and both groups sank into oblivion. Dusty Springfield was no longer comfortable with Tom's leading role. She left to pursue a solo career while Tom Springfield and Mike Hurst also left to pursue other careers.

In Rhodesia, Mapfumo, who had previously played with Zutu Brothers and the Cosmic Four Dots, became a founder of the Hallelujah Chicken Run Band after which he joined Jonah Sithole in the Acid Band before forming the Blacks Unlimited.

Chabuka, whose musical roots were in the Boys Club at Stodart Hall in Mbare, had spent time with Crazy Kids and the City Dixies, where he rubbed shoulders with Friday Mbirimi, Samuel Shonhiwa and William Kashiri.

From the Springfields, Chabuka hooked onto the Zebrons and then became a member of the Harare Mambos.

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Chabuka also lent his services to the Broadway Quartet, where he met Jonah Marumahoko, Timothy Sikova, Simangaliso Tutani and Charles Fernando.

Together with Marumahoko, Chabuka was in the Movement where Lenos Mutariyana was one of the members.

Kambani became one of Zimbabwe's celebrated guitarists while Makaya is still gracing the stage.

allherfaces
Administrator
★★★★★

Posted - 08/08/2007 : 02:30:54



Where do you find these things??
Great to see Dusty in the news...in Zimbabwe !



<http://www.dustyspringfield.info>

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paula
Moderator
★★★★

Posted - 08/08/2007 : 02:59:24



oh..just floating around in virtual space 😊
paula x



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5012 Posts

daydreamer
Moderator
★★★★

Posted - 08/08/2007 : 07:47:01



Well, I never knew that! Two sets of Springfields, you learn something every day. 😊

Carole x



"Since you went away, I've been hanging around...."



Tim

Posted - 08/08/2007 : 16:21:08

Where am I going?



That's a new spin on Dusty's reason for going solo...



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