

Frankie Knuckles' Record Collection Has Been Digitized

House music pioneer Frankie Knuckles' collection of 5,000 vinyl albums has been digitized. The job was completed on the 10th anniversary of his passing by members of the Theaster Gates Rebuild Foundation. Knuckles made house music a cultural force as the DJ at Chicago's Warehouse Club and then the Power Plant during the '70s and '80s. He was also responsible for remixing songs under Def Mix Productions with David Morales including "Change" by Lisa Stansfield. In 1991, his first album, *Beyond The Mix* came out and contained his signature tune "The Whistle Song." He won the Grammy Award for Remixer of the Year Non-Classical in 1998 before the award was given for a specific work. Frederick Dunson, the founder, president, and executive director of the Frankie Knuckles Foundation said, "Frankie was not just a maestro on the dance floor; he was a guiding force, infusing his artistry with purpose and connection. Today, we honor his lasting influence and express our deepest respect for the unforgettable mark he left on Chicago and the world."

Knuckles's record collection will be used to educate the public about house music and for the Sunday Service dance parties at the Stony Island Arts Bank which Gates' Rebuild Foundation [restored](#).



Photo: Tom Harris. © Hedrich Blessing. Courtesy of Rebuild Foundation

Andrés Releases Andrés V



Detroit DJ, producer, and musician Andrés has released *Andrés V* on Moodymann's Mahogany Music. The former Slum Village DJ started releasing house music on Kenny Dixon Jr.'s label in the early 2000s. He has kept his hip-hop work mostly under his DJ Dez moniker but *V* blends both aesthetics and more into an irresistible party packet. *V* opens the album with the gospel trance of "Praises" which was released as a single in 2021 and wound up in heavy rotation by people like Louie Vega. "Cybermate" coolly describes a digital lover in a charming mix of ghetto house and New Wave that will force any listener to surrender into a continued head nod. "Listen To The Sound" dresses Fleetwood Mac's "Dreams" in droning bass, faint horns, and speed ideal for driving music and the dancefloor. Dez's time with Dilla shows up in his James Brown sampled "Funky 2Step" which belongs in a modern version of a Soul Train line. The album ends with the funky cosmic racket of "Jungle Stroll" that punches in with a sample of Roxanne Shante's "Roxanne's

Revenge.” *Andrés V* reaffirms Detroit’s dance music legacy and Mahogani Music’s current status as the most relevant house label in the city. The only problem? *Andrés V* ends too quickly, leaving the listener thirsty for at least one more song.

[ANDRÉS V by Andrés](#)

Crystal Waters Has A Video For Dance, Dance, Dance

Dance music legend Crystal Waters shares the video for her single [“Dance, Dance, Dance.”](#) Waters co-wrote the song with fellow house music veteran Jovonn. She released the track last year on DJ Spen’s Quantize Recordings and it will be included on a forthcoming EP. The video is a black-and-white party with Waters surrounded by her dancers. The “Gypsy Woman” singer was last heard from in 2022 with [“2B Luv.”](#) Jovonn also co-produced and remixed “Dance, Dance, Dance.”

Unreleased Recordings From Sylvester Released On New

Album



In 1970, years before Sylvester became a disco icon, he recorded some traditional gospel and blues songs at Peter Mintun's home in the Bay Area. Mintun was a piano player who performed with the Cockettes, a drag theater troupe Sylvester was a part of for a few years. The reel-to-reel recordings of Billie Holiday's "God Bless The Child" and the 1933 torch standard "Stormy Weather," along with seven other songs, were never heard by the public. Sylvester was 22 years old at the time and eight years away from his breakthrough single "You Make Me Feel (Mighty Real)." The singer's well-known falsetto delivered the songs calmly, significantly contrasting how he belted out his disco hits in the same tone but with much more volume and style. Mintun posted the songs to Soundcloud, and Josh Cheon, owner of the Dark Entries label, released the music as *Private Recordings, August 1970*. The album comes with

a 16-page booklet that has never been seen before photos of Sylvester that Mintun took after they drove around San Francisco one day. *Private Recordings* was released last September, and it is not the only recent posthumous sighting of Sylvester. Amazon Prime released the mini-documentary *Love Me Like You Should: The Brave And Bold Sylvester* three years ago. Martha Wash, Sylvester's sister Bernadette Baldwin, biographer Josh Gamson, and Billy Porter participated in the film.