

Spike Lee, Taye Diggs & More Attend Prince IMAX Screening For Sign O' The Times



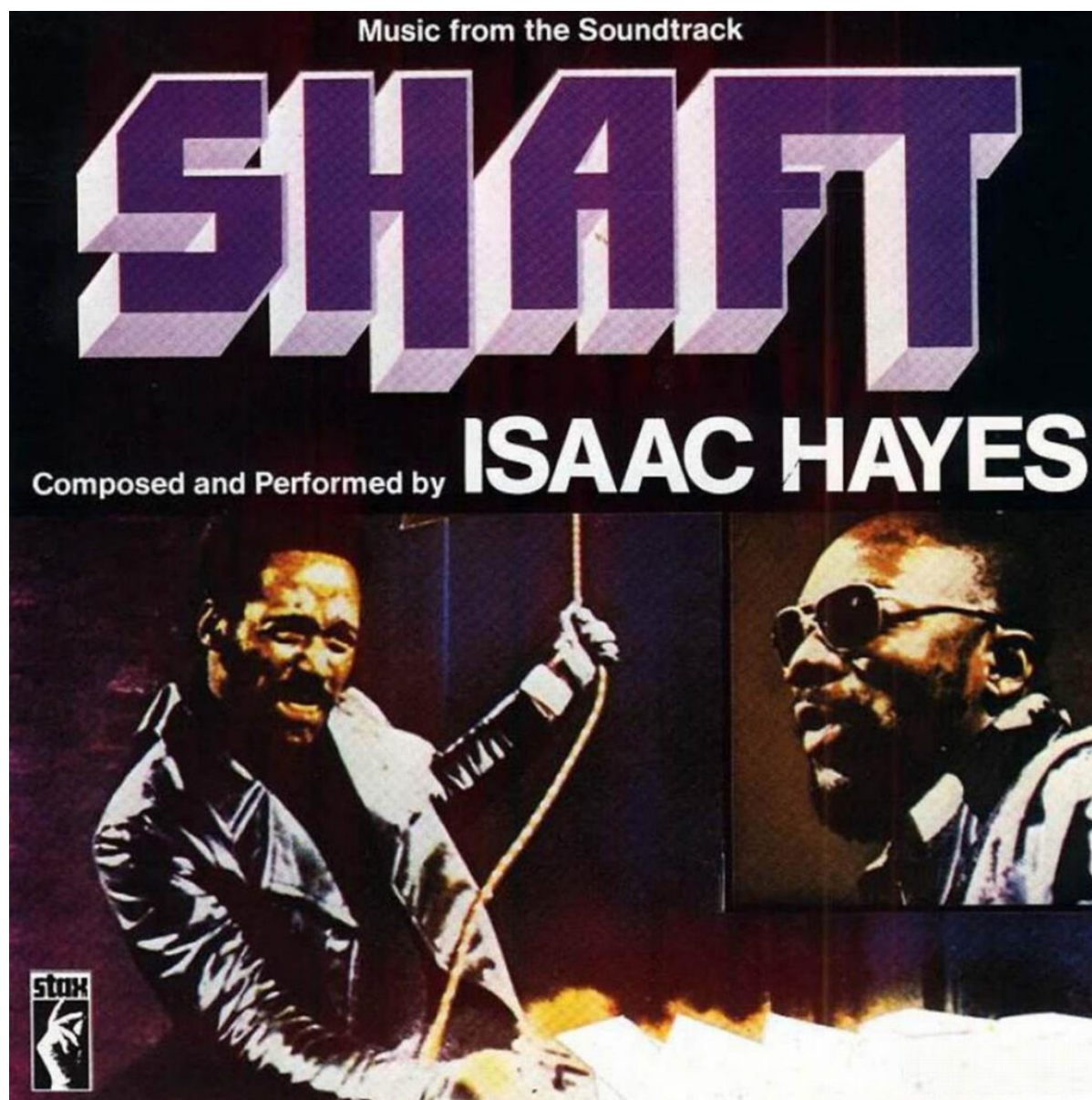
Spike Lee, Don Lemon, and Taye Diggs were amongst the crowd that attended an IMAX screening of Prince's Sign O' The Times concert movie in New York Wednesday night. IMAX, Mercury Studios, FilmRise, and Paisley Park Studios hosted the event at the KMC Kips Bay 15 IMAX theatre in New York City. The evening started with attendees walking the purple carpet and standing in front of a floral arrangement and sharing their observations on Prince's legacy. Luann de Lesseps, Dianne Brill, Amir Arison, and Genevieve Gorder joined artists and musicians, including members of Interpol, Eugene Hutz (Gogo Bordello), Blu DeTiger, and Emmett Skye, along with designers and cultural figures in honoring Prince's artistry. DJs AKU (Florence & The Machine), The Muses, Rex DeTiger, and a surprise live tribute performance provided the entertainment while guests sipped on purple cocktails.

Sign O' The Times is one of the most important concert films, as it captured Prince at his height and was the companion film to an equally significant album. It was Prince's second time directing a film, having done so previously with *Under The Cherry Moon*. *Sign O' The Times* was praised by critics, unlike *UTCM* and despite it not doing so well at the box office, it has become an essential part of the Prince story and pop music. The IMAX version of the film will be available on streaming platforms and in theaters on August 29th.





Throwback: Isaac Hayes: Do Your Thing



Isaac Hayes wrote “Do Your Thing” for the soundtrack to Gordon Parks’ 1971 blaxploitation film *Shaft*. Hayes initially wanted to be cast in the movie but Parks sent footage for him to write music for and gave him a cameo. Parks and MGM liked the first few songs Hayes composed for the movie and they eventually hired him to score the whole film. The soundtrack

was released in 1971 and was the first double album of original music from a Black artist. It was five years before Stevie Wonder's *Songs In The Key of Life* and four before Earth, Wind & Fire's *Gratitude*. Shaft hit number one on the Billboard 100 and R&B Albums chart, went platinum within a month, and won two Grammys for Best Engineered Recording, Non-Classical, and Best Instrumental Arrangement. Hayes became the first Black person to win an Oscar in a non-acting category for the theme song from Shaft that won for Best Original Song.

Shaft made a way for soul music to feature prominently in movies and it would only be a year later when Gordon Parks Jr. would hire Curtis Mayfield to create the soundtrack to *Super Fly*. In 2019, a remastered version of *Shaft* was released with 22 bonus tracks. Hayes recorded 20 solo albums, more than six collaboration albums with Otis Redding, Wilson Pickett, and more, and had appeared in over 50 films and television shows by the time of his passing in 2008. He rose from being a storied songwriter with partner David Porter at Stax Records into a blueprint for the soul star. On August 14th, [HUF](#) will release its capsule collection of Hayes' merchandise.

Media Questions Of The Week

Why wasn't Spike Lee's *Highest 2 Lowest* promoted more?

Soul Train AWARDS



How long will the Soul Train and BET Hip-Hop Awards shows be indefinitely suspended?

Slick Rick's Victory Will Screen At HollyShorts Film Festival



Credit: Alex J. Piper

Slick Rick's visual album *Victory* will screen at the HollyShorts Film Festival at the TCL Chinese Theater in

Hollywood on Thursday, August 7, 2025. The film is the companion to the audio album that has a scenario for each song. Slick Rick recorded the album with inspiration from his life of ups and downs as a Golden Era hip-hop icon and his love for hip-hop. Idris Elba partnered with Rick to release the project on his 7Wallace label with the Mass Appeal imprint and he is the executive producer. *Victory* had its first screening on Christmas Day in 2024 at Rikers Island and was hosted by Rick and his wife and business partner Mandy Aragones through their Victory Patch Foundation. Meji Alabi, who directed Beyoncé's *Black is King*, also directed *Victory*, and Rick summed it up: "VICTORY is named with purpose. This is more than a body of work – it's where sound meets vision, where resilience meets rhythm. A global love letter to hip-hop, to creativity, and to the overlooked, told through the lens of imagination and truth." *Victory* will start at 8 PM and [tickets](#) are still available.