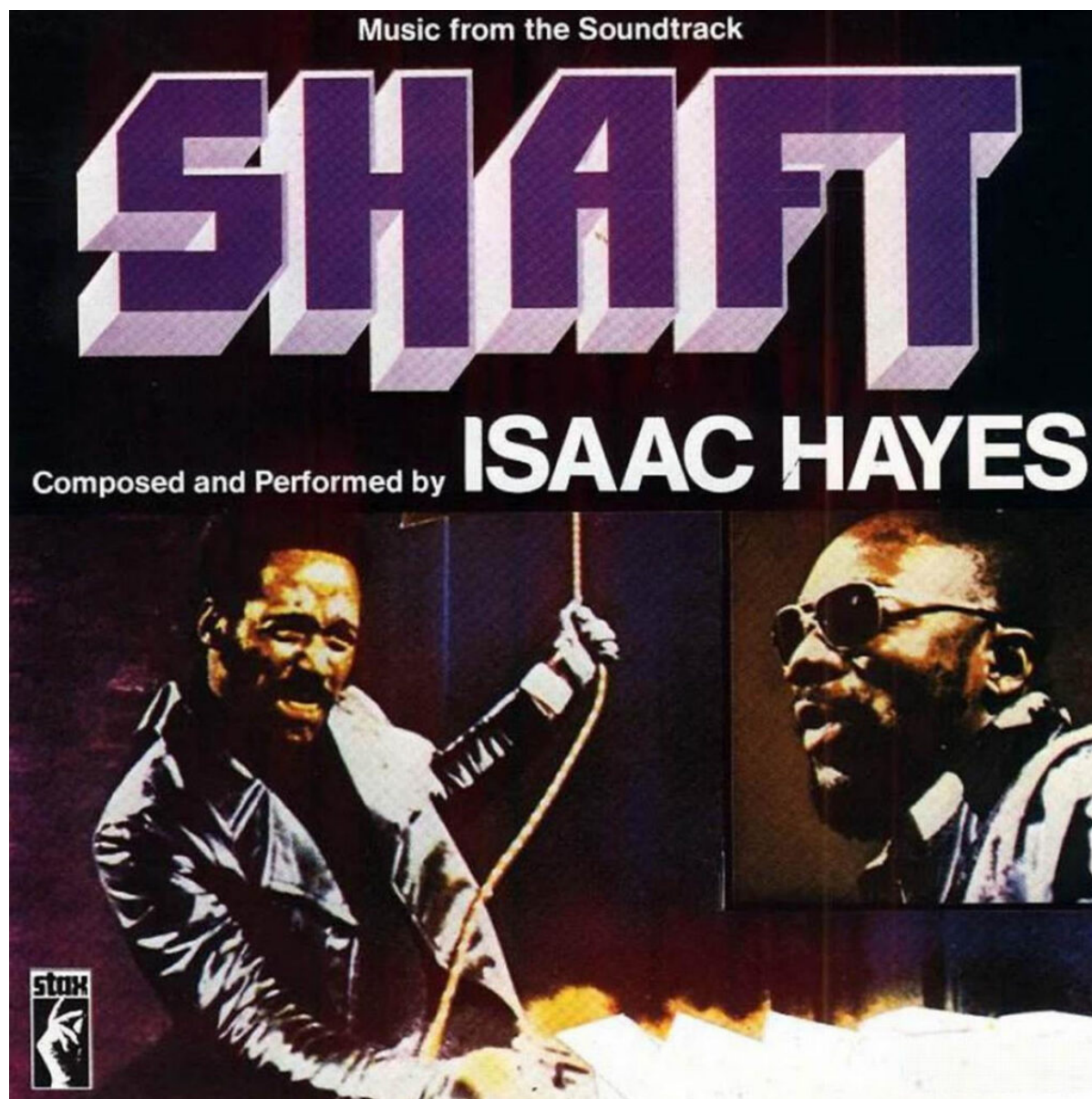


Throwback: Isaac Hayes: Do Your Thing



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.

Shaft Soundtrack To Be Reissued In Deluxe Version With Liner Notes From Questlove



Isaac Hayes' soundtrack to Gordon Parks' 1971 *Shaft* is being reissued in a deluxe version with liner notes from Questlove. The movie was one of the backbones to the blaxploitation film

era. Hayes' theme song for the film won an Academy award and proved to be the only competition to Curtis Mayfield's *Superfly* score. The reissue is remastered and limited to 5,000 copies. Melvin Van Peebles' *Sweet Sweetback's Baadasssss Song* was considered by some as the independent pioneer of the blaxploitation movement when his film debuted in April in 1971.Â But *Shaft* was definitely the movie to bring the genre to the mainstream when it hit theaters in June of 1971.

The music from the film's score and the album were not the same. The first songs were a series of instrumentals Hayes recorded at MGM's studios in California. He returned to his base in Memphis and re-recorded the music at the Stax studios and those recordings became *Shaft*â€™*Music From The Soundtrack*.Â The music heard in the film was released in a 2008 limited edition box set. The deluxe reissue will be the first time that both collections of songs are packaged together. Questlove notes,Â

“Hayes was a specialist at mood music, in the sense that he knew how to employ orchestration and tempo to elicit emotions from his listening audience. â€˜Bumpyâ€™s Lamentâ€™ is sad and contemplative, a perfect match for Gunnâ€™s gangster, worried about the fate of his daughter. â€˜Walk to Regioâ€™sâ€™ approximates downtown energy with a pulsing bass and a chirping guitar that opens up into a fully orchestrated section. â€˜Do Your Thingâ€™ is another straightforward song, brassy and sultry.â€”

Isaac Hayes was already a hit songwriter for Stax and had become a solo star with the breakthrough album *Hot Buttered Soul* in 1969. Isaac Hayes was at the apex of his creativity and his performance of the theme at the 1972 Academy Awards ceremony is one of the most memorable. He also had a cameo in the film as a bartender. Parks' *Shaft* became a trilogy of films including *Shaft's Big Score* (1972) and *Shaft In Africa* (1973) the latter which was directed by John Guillermin. John

Singleton rebooted the franchise in 2000 with Samuel L. Jackson in the role of John Shaft. Jackson returns in the sequel to the 2000 film on June 14th which is the same day the reissue will be released but it can be pre-ordered from [Stax](#).Â

[youtube id="lPE3C0GpDoA"]

Tracklisting:

Disc 1 â€“ Original Soundtrack

1. Theme From Shaft (4:40)
2. Bumpyâ€™s Lament (1:49)
3. Walk From Regioâ€™s (2:22)
4. Ellieâ€™s Love Theme (3:15)
5. Shaftâ€™s Cab Ride (1:07)
6. CafÃ© Regioâ€™s (6:09)
7. Early Sunday Morning (3:47)
8. Be Yourself (4:27)
9. A Friendâ€™s Place (3:21)
10. Soulsville (3:47)
11. No Name Bar (6:09)
12. Bumpyâ€™s Blues (4:01)
13. Shaft Strikes Again (3:04)
14. Do Your Thing (19:31)
15. The End Theme (1:56)

Disc 2 â€“ Film Score

1. Theme From ShaftÂ [Film Version]Â (4:34)
2. Shaftâ€™s First Fight (1:46)
3. Reel 2 Part 2 / Cat Oughta Be Here (1:43)
4. Bumpyâ€™s LamentÂ [Film Version]Â (1:44)
5. SoulsvilleÂ [Film Version]Â (3:32)
6. Ellieâ€™s Love ThemeÂ [Film Version]Â (3:23)
7. Shaftâ€™s Cab RideÂ [Film Version]Â / Shaft Enters Building (1:38)
8. I Canâ€™t Get Over Losinâ€™ You (2:06)
9. Reel 4 Part 6 (1:37)
10. Reel 5 Part 1 (1:35)
11. A Friendâ€™s PlaceÂ [Film Version]Â (1:44)
12. Bumpyâ€™s BluesÂ [Film Version]Â (3:05)

13. Bumpy's Lament (Reprise) [Film Version] (1:32)
14. Early Sunday Morning [Film Version] (3:05)
15. Do Your Thing [Film Version] (3:21)
16. Be Yourself [Film Version] (1:54)
17. No Name Bar [Film Version] (2:28)
18. Shaft Strikes Again [Film Version] / Return Of Shaft (1:36)
19. Café Regio's [Film Version] (4:23)
20. Walk From Regio's [Film Version] (2:27)
21. Shaft's Pain (3:03)
22. Rescue / The End Theme [Film Version] (10:44)