

# Throwback: The Isley Brothers-It's A Disco Night (Rock Don't Stop)



The Isley Brothers' "It's A Disco Night (Rock Don't Stop)" was one of the rare times they made a club record. They were known for funk, rock and soul but disco was not a genre they had directly approached despite having helped lead the way to its creation. *Winner Takes All* was their 17th album and it was unusual in other ways because it was their only double album and there were no ballads. But their prolific creativity persevered in their versatility. They mastered a disco groove with the Isley funk percolating in the middle of a rhythm designed for satin slip dresses and oversized collars on the

dancefloor. Ron Isley's songbird falsetto gave smooth instructions to the dancers while his brothers Rudolph and Kelly commanded everyone to keep rocking. *Winner Takes All* became a certified Gold album and "It's A Disco Night (Rock Don't Stop)" survived the disco backlash to emerge as another quintessential party jam. The Isley Brothers released their 31st studio album *Make Me Say It Again, Girl* in 2022 and are long overdue for a biopic.

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## Throwback: The Isley Brothers-Just Came Here To Chill



The Isley Brothers' *Baby Makin' Music* was their 30th album and they were still as excited about making music as they had always been. It was five years after Ron Isley was reinvented as Mr. Biggs on their 2001 *Eternal* album with the help of R. Kelly and they had maintained their relevancy after five decades. *Baby Makin' Music* was the first released on the now-defunct Def Soul Classics label and "Just Came To Chill" launched its presence. Ron Isley wrote the song with Gordon Chambers and Troy Taylor. The easygoing plea for a pressure-free evening of intimacy outside of a high-profile setting immediately connected with Isley's fans. The video featured actor Idris Elba as the romantic lead while Isley recapped the Mr. Biggs persona with a cliff-hanger at the end. The album went high up the R&B and Billboard 200 charts reaffirming their legacy with a new generation of fans. In 2017 The Isley

Brothers collaborated with Carlos Santana on the joint album *Power Of Peace*. In 2021 they participated in the Verzuz battle with Earth, Wind & Fire.



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## The Isley Brothers Debut

# Video For Friends And Family Feat. Ron Isley & Snoop Dogg

The Isley Brothers are starting the Spring season with a new song just after an epic appearance Easter Sunday during their Verzuz battle with Earth, Wind & Fire. "Family And Friends" features Ron Isley and Snoop Dogg and the video has a bunch of cameos from Lisa Raye McCoy, Sherri Shepherd, Kym Whitley and Slyeena Johnson. The R&B legends have been creating summer vibes for six decades and now they have a current anthem for 2021. Ron Isley had several online admirers commenting on his new bearded look during the four-hour mini-concert for Verzuz. There is no official announcement for a new album but he was photographed in the studio with Marsha Ambrosius and Dr. Dre.Â

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## Throwback: Kelly Price-Friend Of Mine



Kelly Price spent the early part of the '90s singing in support of other artists like Mariah Carey, Aretha Franklin and SWV among others. Before the decade was over she secured a solo contract with Island Records and her debut album, *Soul Of A Woman* was released in 1998. Price was instantly adored by R&B fans and respected by her peers. "Friend Of Mine" was a relatable story of a friend's betrayal and a dishonest husband. The song was a number one R&B hit and held the spot for five weeks giving Price her first of nine Grammy

nominations. Ron Isley and R.Kelly are featured on the remix which has its drama acted out in a Hype Williams-directed video. This version of "Friend Of Mine" became a pop hit. The video was just as popular as the actual song with Isley reprising his role as Mr. Biggs who played the role of Price's godfather. Price has six solo albums with *Sing, Pray, Love Vol. 1*: being her most recently released in 2014. In 2018 Price joined the cast of BET's *American Soul*, a drama series about the TV show Soul Train founded by Don Cornelius. Price is getting ready for the release of her *Grace* EP on April 2, 2021. The new music is inspired by the passing of her grandfather in 2020 of COVID-19 and the 2015 death of her sister who is named Grace.Â Â