

Throwback: Roy Hargrove-Juicy

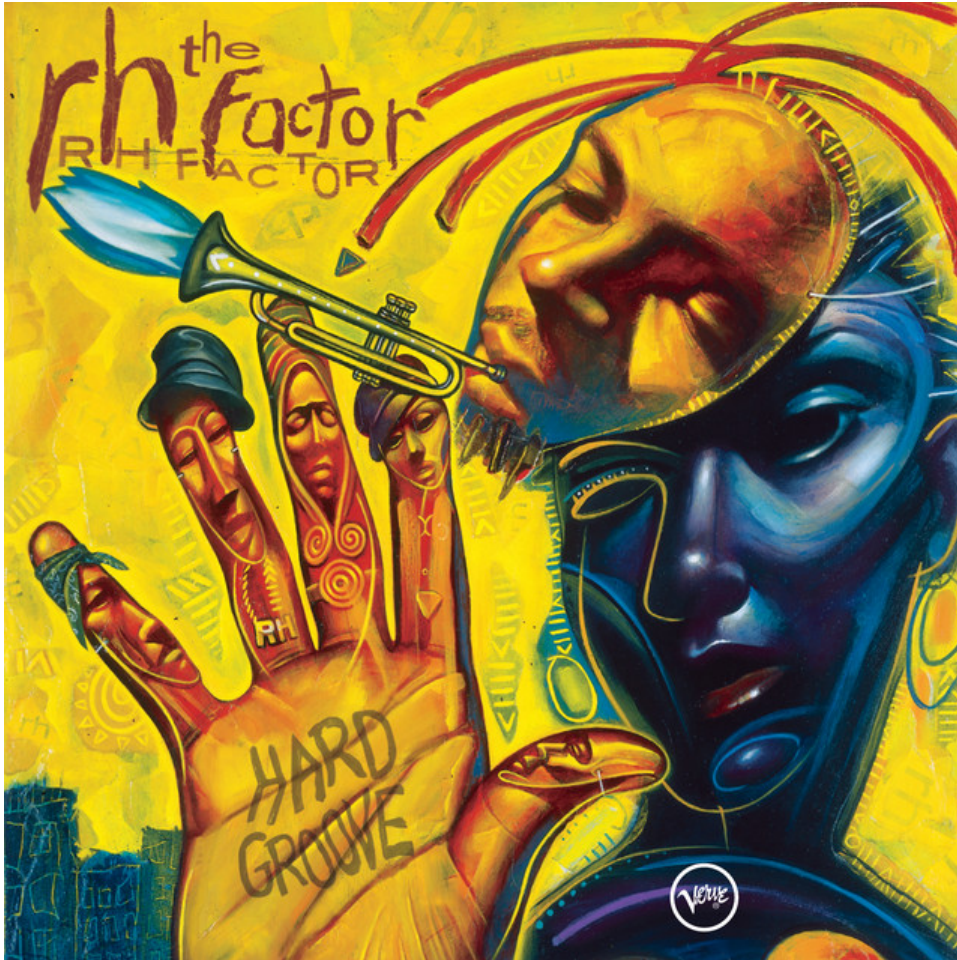


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Roy Hargrove's *Hard Groove* album was a tribute to his childhood affection for hip-hop. He credited the project to his band The RH Factor. As a young star trumpet player in the '90s, he was recognized for his roots in bebop and hard bop styles of jazz. He quickly expanded his palette and would successfully record Latin jazz which won him a Grammy and later started his own big band. Genre-crossing came naturally for him and *Hard Groove* was more than hip-hop as it included R&B and funk influences. "Juicy" was a slow-simmering ballad featuring vocalist Renée Neufville who was one-half of the R&B woman duo Zhané. Hargrove's masterful control of his horn's entry with a blast then an immediate retreat into soft melodic lines and Neufville's lyrics about romantic attraction radiated with a building sensuality. Anthony Hamilton, Common,

Meshell Ndegeocello, Erykah Badu, D'Angelo, Stephanie McKay, Q-Tip, Bernard Wright, Pino Palladino and James Poyser also were contributors to *Hard Groove*. The title was self-explanatory as the music was groove-centric using space and bits of improvisation to create a mood. Hargrove once stated to an interviewer that genre choice was secondary but how the music makes an artist feel should be the goal. *Hard Groove* was Grammy-nominated for Best Performance By a Duo or Group with Vocals and had already received a warm critical reception. It was the first of three RH Factor albums to come out between 2003-2006. Roy Hargrove's "Juicy" celebrated attraction and love connection with a seductive tonal fluency and Neufville's bubbling emotion.

In 2021, Hargrove's estate released his first posthumous album, the duet album *In Harmony* with pianist Mulgrew Miller. In 2020, Hargrove's widow Aide Brandes-Hargrove and daughter Kamala established the official [Roy Hargrove website](#) and the company Roy Hargrove Legacy LLC to preserve his life's work, as well as Instagram ([@groveydean](#)) and Twitter ([@groveydean](#)), accounts for him. The documentary *Hargrove* debuted at the Tribeca Film Festival. They were critical of the film but still grateful for its celebration of Hargrove's life and music.



Roy Hargrove's Music & Life Celebrated

[youtube id="RpfyH0E521M"]Trumpeter Roy Hargrove passed last November at 49 of cardiac arrest leaving behind a remarkable musical legacy that started with jazz standards and eventually went into the realm of neo-soul. On Tuesday night, in New York, peers, friends, fans and over 200 musicians paid tribute to him with five hours of his music. Wynton Marsalis, who met Hargrove when he was 16, led the Jazz At Lincoln Center Orchestra during their walked through performance of "Just A Closer Walk With Thee" which is usually played at New Orleans' jazz funerals. Christian McBride, who

was a friend and colleague to Hargrove hosted the night. The Roy Hargrove Big Band and his RH Factor band were among the performers. Norah Jones, Common, Karriem Riggins, Dee Dee Bridgewater, Jon Batiste and Stephanie McKay graced the stage for the tribute. Hargrove's spirit and impact on music was felt in the building alongside feelings of grief for his passing and celebration for his life's work.Â

R.I.P. Roy Hargrove

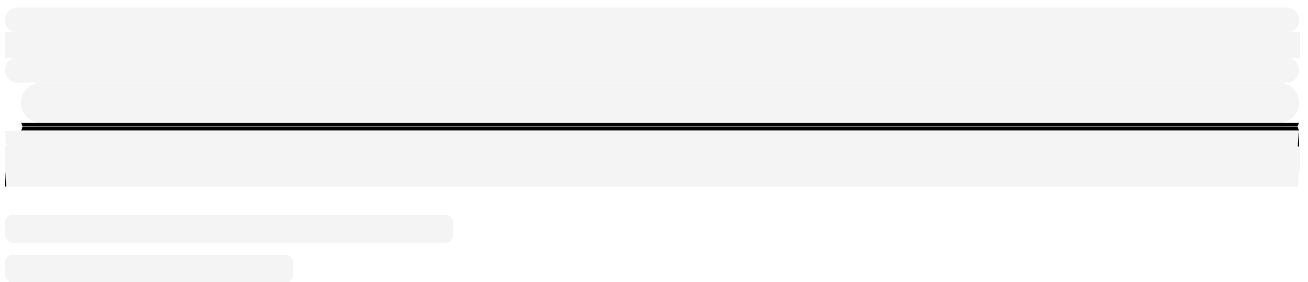


Jazz trumpeter Roy Hargrove has passed at age 49 after suffering from cardiac arrest. Hargrove was considered the most relevant trumpeter of his generation for his mastering of jazz tradition with contemporary sounds. He was associated withÂ the Soulquarians collectiveÂ that included but was not limited toÂ Erykah Badu, D'Angelo, Common, Questlove and J.Dilla. His trumpet was also heard on recordsÂ Angelique Kidjo, Sonny Rollins and John Mayer. As a leader, his RH Factor band was a fusion of R&B, jazz, funk, hip-hop and poetry. The three albums he recorded as the RH Factor were some of the most cohesive examples of the cultural flow among the genres. He won two Grammys in 1997 in the Latin Jazz category for his *Habana* album and again in 2002 for Best Jazz Instrumental Album because of the Herbie Hancock and Michael Brecker co-led *Directions In Music: Live At Massey Hall*. Wynton Marsalis discovered Hargrove when he was aÂ student at the Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Dallas, Texas. He relocated to New York City in the '90s and his career began when his first solo album, *Diamond In The Rough* was released in 1990. Hargrove was already a fixture at Bradley's a jazz club in Greenwich

Village and had developed a reputation for spectacular playing but the release of his first album made him the most talked about young jazz musician in the city. Throughout the '90s his legend grew and he was prolific in his recording habits with others and with his band. Hargrove's last album *Emergence* from 2009 but he continued to tour and record with others.Â



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A post shared by Questlove (@questlove)

Guru & Roy Hargrove

[vimeo]20471734[/vimeo]

Here is footage of Guru and Roy Hargrove from 2008 at Crash Mansion for a Revive Da Live concert. They both discuss their artistry and influences.