## THE BEST OF QUINCY JONES FEATURES Q WITH JAMES INGRAM, **LUTHER VANDROSS, STEVIE WONDER, ASHFORD & SIMPSON AND OTHERS**

Quincy Jones has had such a long and prosperous career that a "best of" album is not a luxury but a necessity – to remind us of the depth and scope of his work as producer, arranger, player, talent scout, etc. His most celebrated pop-jazz albums were created when he was on A&M Records from 1969-1980 – albums which featured James Ingram, The Brothers Johnson, Ashford & Simpson, Chaka Khan, Stevie Wonder, Bill Withers, Billy Preston, Luther Vandross, Minnie Riperton, Al Jarreau and many more.

On The Best Of Quincy Jones (A&M/UME) edition of the 20th Century Masters/The Millennium Collection series, released February 1, 2000, Q's biggest hits and best work from those albums take their rightful place center stage.

Though 'Q' had several well-received albums on Mercury Records as a bandleader in the 1960s, it was when he signed with A&M that Jones began his solo recording career in earnest. His first A&M album, Walking In Space was a Grammy™ winner and yielded his definitive rendition of "Killer Joe." As he moved from jazz to soul and pop, 1971's Smackwater Jack – again a Grammy™ winner – delivered "Cast Your Fate To The Wind." For You've Got It Bad, Girl (1973), his version of Wonder's "Superstition" included Stevie on harmonica, and Withers and Preston on vocals. Also on that album was Q's bouncy theme to the TV series Sanford and Son, titled "The Streetbeater."

In 1974, he struck gold with Body Heat, whose tracks included the classic '70s ballad "If I Ever Lose This Heaven" (with Riperton and Jarreau) and "Everything Must Change." The follow-up, Mellow Madness (1975), introduced The Brothers Johnson with "Is It Love That We're Missin'." Jones went platinum with 1978's danceable Sounds...And Stuff Like That, whose "I'm Gonna Miss You In The Morning" featured a young Vandross. The title cut, the #1 R&B/Top 40 pop hit "Stuff Like That," spotlighted Chaka and Ashford & Simpson.

His final album for A&M was a blockbuster. The Dude (1980) was certified platinum, won five Grammy™ Awards, and introduced Ingram with two pop hits, the Top 20 "Just Once" and the Grammy™winning "One Hundred Ways."

Jones has been nominated for more Grammys than anyone and won more than any non-classical artist (second only to Sir Georg Solti). He's also been honored with a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, Grammy Legend Award and Grammy Trustees Award. For the latter, in 1989, his award acknowledged him as "a producer for four decades of great talent--including his own."

The series 20<sup>th</sup> Century Masters/The Millennium Co<u>llection</u> features new "best of" albums from the most significant music artists of the past century.

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