



# RICHARD PEGUE AND THE BEST MUSIC OF YOUR LIFE



**I JUST SHOOK MY HEAD** and said WHO'S THAT? We've heard them so many times but who are they? So many people tried to duplicate the Motown music style and failed because they didn't have Jackie, Louvain and Marlene.

**THOSE ARE THE NAMES** behind the voices of THE ANDANTES. They were one of the secret ingredients in the Detroit formula and they operated in the shadows of the studio, just like the famed musicians known as The Funk Brothers. Nameless, but a vital part of the signature sound of Motown. Maybe it was the in church experience of Jackie Hicks, Marlene Barrow and Louvain Demps that made their backup voices unique. Louvain first came into the Motown music machine to do a demo for a friend and was asked to "hang around the studio" by Berry Gordy's early very talented music director, and second wife Raynoma. Jackie and Marlene arrived later and the Andantes were in business in the background behind Marvin Gaye, Junior Walker, Billy Ekstine (yes that one) Mary Wells (My Guy) and most of all the FOUR TOPS hit records.

**IF YOU LISTEN** to one of the TOPS best songs "Baby, I Need Your Lovin'" you now realize the Tops background was augmented with the female voices of MY girls the Andantes. Much credit goes to the production of Holland Dozier Holland for the sound and structure of their arrangements with the girls on top of the Tops. Please know that the great Thom Bell followed this formula with The Spinners and others in the 70s. My number one Andantes sound is the stall, the sustained "Ahhhhhhh" in the last 25 seconds of "Bernadette". The girls often were on songs by

the other female Motown groups (Marvalettes-Vandellas-Supremes) with their vocals mixed in to augment the group's sometimes-ailing efforts. The Andantes and their brother group, the ORIGINALS formed the big choir sounding vocals on Jimmy Ruffin's "What Becomes Of The Brokenhearted". For the most part the Andantes stayed in the background and had only a few almost un-issued releases under various names. The group was left in Detroit with so many other vital people when Motown made the MISTAKE of moving to California.

**MOONLIGHTING** IN CHICAGO with the Funk Brothers...It's Jackie Louvain and Marlene on Jackie Wilson's "Higher And Higher". They may have been the voices behind Mary Wells's Chicago work on "Dear Lover". Good aren't they!!!! They sure were.

**READ THIS REAL GOOD** because it's Black TV History month on WTTW Channel 11 and it's excellent! >>> 2/14 - The Chicago Defender >>> 2/16 - Aretha >>> 2/24 - Being Black In America >>> 2/26 - Independent Lens takes a look at George Clinton's Parliament Funkadelic >>> By the way the Quincy Jones hour was GREAT. Congratulations to the



Teddy Pendergrass

History Makers Julieanna Richardson for an excellent show. The Chicago connection - Quincy used to live at 37th and Prairie 10 blocks west of a lady he would eventually work with named Ruth Lee Jones... D in a h Washington. Make



Quincy Jones

sure you check out the Channel 11 schedule for the rest of the month.

**THE MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY** is doing an excellent presentation this month with their Black Creativity program and you NEED to see it with someone you love. The clock is ticking... Go to [www.msichicago.org](http://www.msichicago.org) for details, and better still go to 57th and the outer drive for the real thing.

**STAGE LIGHTS ON THE BLACK ENSEMBLE THE-ATRE** as they get ready to do TEDDY PENDERGRASS and from what we hear, he's coming to Chicago for the premier. This is going to be good...really Good!

Last year Jackie Taylor and company put the spotlight on women and this year is for the men including Bobby Womack (?) ON THE E T A end of town, Music Monday is from 7'til 10pm with WVON's Cliff Kelley and my friend Sue Conway doing the MC thing for vocalist Julia Huff.

**TV's ROBERT JORDAN**

IS A GOOD GUY and we wish him well in his newest adventure. Bob still does an excellent job at channel 9 but he is also working on a vision he's had for a some time. It's called "Luxury Family Biographies" which is a documentary production service for private clients. Complete with family interviews, music, and family history research...a production good enough to put on TV. Bob

sure is taking the scrap book to a new level!! And yes he's still at channel 9.

**NEW ADDRESS TO LISTEN AT** last WKKC has a streaming web address for you to listen to The Best Music Of Your Life. I'm now accessible via this address >>> WKKC.FM <<<< That's it with No Dot Com or anything else. Click on the clickable things and you should be able to hear the show Saturday night at midnight. Call me when you do at 773 488 9552.

**THE 79th STREET SENIORS** are having BIG FUN at the Department Of Senior Services ATLAS CENTER every Monday from 11:30 until 2. The lunchtime activities include music, live entertainment, games and door prizes. The address is 1767 E, 79th between Stony Island and Jeffery. And we dance too!!! PS- Our 40th anniversary radio celebration will be at the Atlas Center on Saturday. March 22nd from Noon until 4pm, and you don't have to be a senior to

enjoy the dusties and do the Twist. This event is a fundraiser for the Center so and come and enjoy the music and the people. For information call 312 747 0189.

**THE 78th STREET STUDENTS** at Hirsch High School got to meet me in class for an introduction that you'll hear more about between now and the end of this semester thanks to principal Dr. Joyce Cooper and TV Dept. teacher Mr. Kendred. Hirsch is Happening!!!

**MO' DUSTIES** at the New Gentle Persuasion on the first Sunday of every month from 5 until midnight. So on Sunday March 2nd join me at 7 o'clock for my hour of dusty power with The Best Music Of Your Life. This idea comes from my long time friend LUTHER GAGE. Come on out!

**IS THAT AL GREEN SINGING "LET'S GET MARRIED"** for WVON's LaMont Watts and his lovely bride Marcella Johnson, now Watts. Let's do the after party at Wallace's Catfish Corner soon. Congratulations yawll.

**HEARD THIS WEEK** "He does a good tap dance...but he's got real bad feet!"

**1 It was the best one - Didn't you LOVE that political commercial with the cut-out people running around taking money and doing stuff?**

**2 Don't go for it - Had any offers to buy your property north of 63rd street?**

**3 You used to like Bill Clinton didn't you?**

**4 Chicago State and Malcolm X - Why are the sisters leaving at the same time?**

**5 Did you see Megan Williams on Montel's show? Made you mad didn't it?**

By Nominal Nomenclature