

MEMORIES FROM GODWIN LOGIE – MUSIC PRODUCER AND ENGINEER

FIRST MEETING

I first met Gregory Isaacs in Nassau just prior to mixing the 'Night Nurse' album!

My first impression of Gregory was that he was an unassuming self-assured person, who had nothing to prove to anybody! Gregory had countless hit records prior to getting the deal with Island Records and he knew that he had a hit album and was ready to go.

Gregory didn't make any mistakes at all whilst recording the vocals on the 'Night Nurse' album which is quite incredible. He was a well-loved Reggae crooner who sang sentimental songs and never made a bad record.

Gregory had the amazing talent of composing hit after a hit! And was aptly called the 'Cool Ruler' by his fans.

Gregory had a smooth Lovers Rock vocal sound which the ladies adored.

When the Rastafarian explosion hit Jamaica and Reggae music in the mid 70's Gregory still maintained his secular lovers rock style.

WORKING ON GREGORY'S ALBUMS

I had the great pleasure as a music producer- recording engineer of mixing the 'Night Nurse' & 'Out Deh' album's of Gregory Isaac in the 80's, when he was signed to Island records who I worked for at the time. The 'Night Nurse' album was recorded at Bob Marley's Tuff Gong studios in Jamaica and mixed by myself in 'The Compass Point Studios' in Nassau, Bahamas.

The album needed a little more work, so Errol 'Flabba' Holt the producer of the album and I decided to have Wally Badarou overdub some keyboards onto the tracks. Wally had just flown into Nassau to work on the album of Chris & Tina Frantz who were the drum & bass players from the 'Talking Heads' group.

As we all know the 'Nurse Nurse' album went on to be one of Gregory's biggest selling albums and the track 'Night Nurse' was used by a cough medicine company in a television commercial of a cough medicine named 'Night Nurse' which goes to show the extent of how much the song and album had crossed over.

The 'Out Deh' album was the 2nd album release on Island records for Gregory. The album followed the same template as 'Night Nurse' and was also recorded in Jamaica and mixed by myself in Island Studios in London, with session keyboard player Phil Ramocon. 'Out Deh' also had a popular hit single called 'Love Me With Feeling', which maintained Gregory's immense popularity worldwide.

He sold out European & US tours following both album releases with Gregory appearing in numerous cities in the UK. Gregory was managed by Don Taylor who had managed Bob Marley & soul singer Denise Williams in their heyday, so Gregory's mainstream career was in good hands.

TOURING

I toured the UK with Gregory to promote the 'Night Nurse' album and I can say that Gregory didn't need to sing any of the songs because the audience did that for him, which I found quite incredible.

LEGACY

As a legacy, Gregory has left the world some great hit songs to inherit. Those songs have a life of their own and will never die.

Gregory left us too soon, but he left something great to remember him by. RIP Gregory Isaac.