



## THIRD WORLD

**WHO ARE THEY?** In 1973 when keyboardist Michael Ibo Cooper and drummer Carl Barovier left the band Inner Circle because they wanted to perform “their own music” instead of the top 40 hits that were practically mandatory for Kingston bands, the late producer Clancy Eccles suggested their breakaway band be called Third World. Cooper and Barovier recruited vocalist Milton “Prilly” Hamilton, percussionist Irvin “Carrot” Jarrett, guitarist Stephen “Cat” Coore and Daley on bass; shortly thereafter, drummer Willie Stewart replaced Barovier and William “Bunny Rugs” Clarke joined the group as lead singer.

Third World relocated to London shortly after their formation and signed to Chris Blackwell’s Island Records for whom they recorded four albums. They went on to release more than 20 additional albums for various labels including Columbia, CBS and Mercury, which has yielded a catalogue rife with revered reggae anthems including “Now That We’ve Found Love”, which cracked the Top 10 on both the U.S. R&B and the British Pop charts, and “Try Jah Love”, written and produced by Stevie Wonder.

**INFLUENCE?** When asked how Third World, Jamaica’s longstanding reggae ambassadors, have remained relevant after 37 years, the band’s bassist Daley offered a practical, almost formulaic response. “We set a unique template,” Daley begins “and set the bar so high, we have to live up to the expectations. When people say Third World is fantastic, we say we just embody a concept that we continue to live up to.” This along with luck, coupled with diligence and venerated musical skills, have fostered a seamless amalgam comprised of reggae, funk, R&B, even strands of classical music and hip hop, which has brought Third World legions of loyal followers across several continents.

**...AND NOW?** With their present lineup featuring Clarke, Coore and Daley alongside keyboardists Herbie Harris and Norris Web and drummer Tony Rupton, Third World is officially celebrating their 35th anniversary in 2010, with a world tour and the release their *Patriots* album in August. “In 2008 the 35th anniversary just happened upon us before we got the album done, so we decided to celebrate this year,” explains Cat Coore. Patriots

honours several Jamaican heroes including Paul Bogle, Marcus Garvey, and Nanny of the Maroons, and boasts a stellar cast of Jamaican guest artistes including the timeless Marcia Griffiths, sax maestro Dean Fraser and Damian and Stephen Marley. “This album makes a statement about our national heroes,” says Coore, “as well as the reggae patriots who have given their life to Jamaican music.”



TOP 3 SONGS

*Satta Massagana*  
*1865 (96° in the Shade)*  
*Now That We Found Love*