



3-TIME GRAMMY AWARD WINNER DARIUS BROOKS LEADS HIS LABEL JOURNEY MUSIC GROUP (JMG) TO THE TOP

Chicago, IL – Journey Music Group (JMG), has already begun to experience the successes that are produced from hard work. To start, a new distribution deal with KOCH Entertainment and the lead release MY SOUL from the labels President/CEO, Grammy Award Winning songwriter/producer Darius Brooks, only scratch the surface for the Chicago-based indy label.

Tucked away in a western suburb, just moments away from where Brooks grew up on the west side of Chicago, sits Journey Music Group. Motivated by and committed to the legacy of his mother, Ethel Brooks, an accomplished pianist who helped lay the solid foundation that gospel music stands on today from her work with such gospel greats as James Cleveland, Mahalia Jackson, Albertina Walker and many others. In the last two decades Darius has attained the industry's standard of success, multiple Grammy, Stellar, and Dove awards, a discography that includes work with Shirley Caesar, Ramsey Lewis, Vickie Winans, and current R&B chart-topper Avant to name a few. With total creative control and a future so bright it's blinding, he is now defining his personal definition of success.

JMG houses label operations and a state of the art recording studio (DebDash, named after his wife Deborah and daughter Dasha). Boasting a full-time professional staff of seven, covering songwriting, production, creative, marketing, public relations, radio promotions, management, booking, accounting and distribution management. The staff holds a total of 10 degrees amongst them in both undergraduate and graduate studies in their respective fields. "My staff is extremely smart and talented. I believe one of the keys to our success is freedom. The freedom to be themselves, to express themselves, and in that freedom they find ownership of every aspect of the labels success and because of that we can continue to WIN" Brooks says.

In January the label inked a distribution deal with KOCH Entertainment, the leading and fastest-growing independent music and video company in the U.S. and its operations encompass record and video labels and distribution in the U.S. and Canada. KOCH Entertainment is the market leader among independents in both the U.S. and Canada and its record labels had the largest number of Billboard charting albums among independents in 2004/2005. Due to this deal with KOCH the labels first release, Darius Brooks' MY SOUL will be available at Walmart, Circuit City, Best Buy, Tower, FYE, Coconuts, Wherehouse, Berean and Family Christian Bookstores among many other retail outlets.



JMG's first release and Darius' best yet, *MY SOUL*, is an out-pouring of his life experiences to melodies. He pulls out all the stops to create an eclectic mixture on this project that appeals to a wide range of listeners. Forthcoming releases for 2006 also include "The ReUnion", featuring former members of the famed "Thompson Community Singers" affectionately known as the "Tommies." The ReUnion features live versions of: "If I be Lifted, " "Jesus Rose," "For the Good of Them," "Available to You" and many more. Kim McFarland, LeAnne Faine and a host of other vocalists and musicians returned to Chicago for the live recording. Tina Watson is also featured displaying her amazing range and vocal ability. Her debut release simply entitled *TINA* will showcase her beautifully angelic soprano voice. Also Brooks presents the debut release of SDM, entitled *VICTORY*. SDM is a selected group of talented vocalists and musicians he utilizes as his backup ensemble. He created the group from his SDM Foundation, which is devoted to discovering and mentoring young talent.

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