

Bill Jolly

Bill Jolly is a (3) time Emmy Award winning composer/ arranger/ musical director and keyboardist. He's performed before (5) U.S. Presidents and has been featured twice in Keyboard Magazine.

He's worked with P!NK, Usher, Celine Dion, Ledisi, Michael Buble', Michael Jackson, Lalah Hathaway, Musiq, Stevie Wonder, Aretha Franklin, Chaka Kahn, Patti LaBelle, Tyrese, Quincy Jones, Jill Scott, Bonnie Raitt, Anthony Hamilton, Phyllis Hyman, Brian McKnight, Chuck D, Kim Burrell, Paul Shaffer, Bill Withers, Luther Vandross and Jon Batiste to name a few.

Bill spent 10 years as the Musical Director/keyboardist for the late Grover Washington Jr. He played duets with Grover at Carnegie Hall, the Playboy Jazz Festival, The Tonight Show and The North Sea Jazz Fest as well as the arena retirement ceremonies for Kareem Abdul-Jabbar and Dr. J.

He was the musical director for Cathy Hughes' Radio One's 25th Anniversary, (featuring Beyonce') The Rhythm and Blues Foundation Awards, The Susan G. Komen Foundation Gala at the Kennedy Center and replaced the renown Philadelphia Orchestra as the current Musical Director for the prestigious Marian Anderson Awards for the last 8 years.

He's composed music for HBO, MTV, NBC, ABC, CBS, Showtime, Columbia Tri- Star Pictures, Coca-Cola and McDonalds to name a few. He scored the music for the film on the life of Dionne Warwick entitled, "Don't Make Me Over" which debuted as the time slot winner on CNN and is currently showing on HBO Max featuring, Elton John, Bill Clinton, Alicia Keys, Cissy Houston, Gladys Knight, Stevie Wonder, Burt Bacharach, Clive Davis, Santana, Gloria Estefan, Smokey Robinson and Snoop Dog.

Bill conducted and directed the orchestra for the Sony/PBS/Live Nation DVD and TV special "Love Train: The Sound of Philadelphia" and has done musical tributes for artists as diverse as Bon Jovi, Wynton Marsalis, Billy Joel, Earth, Wind and Fire, Babyface, Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis and Third World (with the artists in attendance.)

Bill was the last Musical director and songwriting partner with the late Teddy Pendergrass. Bill directed Teddy's "From Teddy with Love" DVD, was featured in his "Unsung" TV episode. He also directed Teddy's funeral.

Bill has numerous theater credits including the Off- Broadway, London and Paris tours of Stephen Stahl's *Lady Day* starring Dee Dee Bridgewater and multiple tours of "Ain't Misbehavin'."

Bill was inducted as a member of TSOP Orchestra into the Philadelphia Music Alliance Walk of Fame and is also inducted into Overbrook High School's Hall of Fame. He has received "Living Legend Awards" from the Commonwealth of PA, The City of Philadelphia and the African American Museum. He received the 2024 Ray & Joan Kroc Salvation Army "Shining a

Light on Black History Award.” Bill received West Chester University's Distinguished Alumni Award, was featured in their recruitment, movie theater and billboard ads campaign and gave the Commencement speech at West Chester University's 2013 graduation exercises, receiving the first standing ovation for a speaker since his graduation. There is also a statue of Fredric Douglas in the middle of West Chester's campus with Bill's name forever etched onto it.

Bill has collaborated with Academy Award nominated director Lee Daniels on the films, *The Paperboy*, *The Butler* and the TV Series, *Star*. Actors who appeared in those projects were; Nicole Kidman, Matthew, McConaughey, Zac Erfron, Forrest Whitaker, John Cusack, Macy Gray, Queen Latifah, Terrence Howard, Robin Williams and Oprah to name a few.

In front of the camera, Bill appeared on “Million Dollar Listing Los Angeles” was a TV reporter for NBC10 in Philly, endorsed the Bose Corporation on QVC, promoted Korg and Project Sam musical instruments and was featured in billboard and radio ads representing Verizon Wireless.

Bill is the global winner of Hyatt Hotels' “The Big Welcome” contest which netted him 365 free Hyatt stays, 1 million free airline miles and a \$50,000 cash prize. He's traveled extensively around the globe and has seen all 7 Wonders of the World. He also conquered his (5) greatest fears in life; skydiving, swimming with sharks (without a cage), zip lining, cliff diving, and scuba diving.

Bill produces and edits music videos. He recorded the video and audio for the Billy Joel/Elton John Tribute Band, “Face to Face” concert, edited the Led Zeppelin Tribute Band (No Quarter)'s sizzle reel and created a viral video that was picked up by the National Newswire with over a million views showcasing an 80+ year old rapping grandmother. Grandmomma ljoy's “Thank you to Obama” rap video was celebrated around the world and it also caught the attention of President Obama as well.

Bill received (2) Platinum Records for his keyboard/arranging work (and his Bill Jolly Choir's work) on P!NK's “I Am Here” song from her “Beautiful Trauma” recording. Bill is currently producing a song that he also co-wrote for gospel icon, Hollywood Walk of Fame Inductee and 12X Grammy Award-Winner, Shirley Caesar. Bill is the Musical Director for the Grover (Washington, Jr) Tribute Band which has featured sax greats Gerald Albright, Kirk Whalum, Najee, Everette Harp, Kim Waters and Andy Snitzer.

Bill really loves to work with “regular, everyday, talented people” to help them produce their music, shows, videos, ideas, songs, recordings, films and more! He works with all ages, all styles and all talent levels. Bill believes that life is too short to not follow your creative dreams. Oscar winner Questlove and Tariq (from the Roots and Jimmy Kimmel Show) started their first demos and recording career in Bill's basement studio.

Bill is the proud father of a daughter named Bianca Jolly. www.BillJolly.com