

Motown Being Remixed

Written by Robert ID654

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Tom Moulton, remix pioneer; has been busy revisiting nuggets from the Motown vaults. One or two of these may find their way onto "Motown Remixed," a collection the label is releasing March 29.

Thus far, Moulton has remixed the Commodores' "Three Times a Lady," the Miracles' "Do It Baby" (post-Smokey Robinson) and the Supremes' "Stoned Love."

Those familiar with Moulton's work ethic know that his remixes are made without sacrificing a song's original intent. In other words, unlike the bulk of today's remixers, Moulton does not create a brand-new track around the original vocals.

Instead, he uses elements from the original version of the song. He will extend a portion of a song, re-loop a section or discover a vocal part on the master tape that was never used before. In this way, he is like a master excavator, digging up this and that to uncover a long-hidden gem.

"Too often, the instruments on these older songs were recorded without much care," Moulton says. "You listen to the master tapes and it is not uncommon to hear things recorded in a sloppy manner or to hear lots of noise in the mix. So, I do what I think needs to be done."

While Harry Weinger, VP of A&R at Universal Music Enterprises -- and producer of "Motown Remixed"-- would not confirm which, if any, of Moulton's remixes will make the final track list, he does confirm the following selections: Marvin Gaye's "Let's Get It On" (remixed by Paul Simpson & Miles Dalto), the Jackson 5's "I Want You Back" (Z-Trip), Eddie Kendricks' "Keep on Truckin'" (DJ Spinna), the Supremes' "My World Is Empty Without You" (Tranzition) and Smokey Robinson's "Quiet Storm" (Rafe Gomez & David Baron), which features the legendary

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vibes man Roy Ayers.

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