



SANTANA NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 1985

"When you're in your heart of hearts, you can see beyond appearances."
—Carlos Santana

The release date for Santana's new album, "BEYOND APPEARANCES" is February 25 and it will be in your music stores on March 4. If your local radio station is not playing the album, call them and request it!

We have all waited a long time for this album and we want you to know that it is the band's high standard of excellence they demand in their music that kept them working on it so long.

Santana has filmed a video for the single now on the radio, "SAY IT AGAIN," so look for it on MTV and other music video shows in February. It features family and friends of the band and was shot on location in San Francisco. Carlos had much to do with the creation of this video and it shows in its beauty and naturalness.

At this time tour dates have not been confirmed. Sometimes the tour dates are confirmed too late for us to get an announcement to you, so please keep your eyes open for Santana's appearances.

If you were unable to see Santana this

summer or fall you really missed a fabulous show by what many fans are calling the hottest Santana Band ever!

The line up is:

Carlos Santana—*guitars, vocals*
Chester Thompson—*keyboards, vocals*
Alex Ligertwood—*vocals, rhythm guitar*
Greg Walker—*vocals*
Alphonso Johnson—*bass*
Armando Peraza—*congas, bongos, percussion*
Orestes Vilato—*timbales, percussion*
Raul Rekow—*congas, percussion*
Graham Lear—*drums*

We would like to congratulate Carlos and his wife, Deborah, on the birth of their second child, Stella, on January 6, 1985. We'd also like to congratulate Raul Rekow and his wife, Diane, who are expecting their third child in August.

ALPHONSO JOHNSON

Alphonso Johnson was born in Philadelphia thirty-four years ago. At age 9, he began studying the bass viol. At 15, he received his first bass guitar. At 19, he joined a group called the MAJESTICS and toured Atlantic City and the local college circuit.

He spent the summer of 1968 playing with Ronnie Dyson and although he was playing mostly R&B, he began to create his own style of fusion music. He was then approached by the manager of the THREE DEGREES to play for the group and they toured Las Vegas and large clubs for a year. He then returned to Philadelphia wanting to expand his scope and joined a local jazz fusion band called CATALYST. For the next year and a half, Alphonso played locally with them and began to garner a name for himself as a young, up and coming bassist. His unique style brought him to the attention of the WOODY HERMAN BAND, with which he toured the world and recorded an album called THE RAVEN SPEAKS. In 1973, THE CHUCK MANGIONE QUARTET asked him to join the band and they recorded the album LAND OF MAKE-BELIEVE. During a concert performance he was heard by Wayne Shorter and was then asked to fly to Los Angeles to record the album MYSTERIOUS TRAVELER with the band WEATHER REPORT. Alphonso co-wrote two songs for the album and toured with the band for two years. During that period he recorded his first solo album, MOONSHADOWS for CBS/EPIC.

In 1976, Alphonso moved to Los Angeles permanently and began to study electronics and became fascinated with an instrument called the Chapman Stick (a ten-stringed electric touchboard) with a unique sound. He then recorded a second album for Epic called YESTERDAYS DREAMS. Through extensive study, he developed in 1977, the B.A.S.T.A.R.D. (Bass Amplification System Through Added Regenerated Devices) to use while on tour and in the studios. With added knowledge and expertise, Alphonso recorded his third solo album in 1978 called SPELLBOUND which featured the CHAPMAN STICK AND B.A.S.T.A.R.D. In 1979 he toured the U.S. with the CBS JAZZ ALL-STARS and recorded an album with ROD ARGENT.

1983 was a year to reflect and try his hand at film scoring and as a result Alphonso was lucky enough to become involved with doing the soundtrack for a children's film called SOUND OF SUNSHINE... SOUNDS OF RAIN. This film was nominated for an Academy Award in the category of Best Animated Film for 1983.

In 1984 Alphonso joined SANTANA. He toured with Santana this summer in Europe with Dylan and also this fall in the U.S. Alphonso is featured on the newest Santana album BEYOND APPEARANCES.

We are fortunate to have such a strong and fine musician in the band who carries himself with true dignity and soulfulness.

We have two new t-shirts for you and both of them are dynamite!

Beyond Appearances shirt—this shirt has artwork from the new album cover on a black short sleeve shirt.


Carlos tee—a great design with Carlos playing on a white short sleeve shirt.



NOTES FROM THE BAND:

Raul, Orestes, Armando and Rafael Cornejo have been working on an album due out this summer entitled, R.O.A.R., which is also the name of their group.

Greg can be heard on the KAZU MATSUI PROJECT's new album "Is That The Way To Your Heart" on the Canyon label.




NOTES FROM CARLOS:

Carlos feels that this present group of musicians is definitely the best band Santana has ever had. This is because of each musician's personality that blends so well with their musicality.

Carlos' goal in '85 is to make people aware of the difference between a 4 star restaurant and McDonald's as far as the quality of music is concerned. His idea of 4 star musicians is John Lee Hooker, McCoy Tyner, Miles Davis, Patti Labelle and Bob Dylan to name a few. He also hopes that at each concert the band's joy, light and love will give the audience inspiration to take home.

Carlos' dream for "Beyond Appearances" is that those who listen will have a hunger to live, share love and create beauty in life.



NOTES FROM THE FAN CLUB:

Check out Carlos' favorite tune on "Beyond Appearances": "Right Now"!
