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HAS PRODUCED: MFSB Salsoul Orchestra Carol Williams Charo Montana and others

Vince's professional career began in the early 1950's when he played with his own group in various nightclubs and for private affairs. He toured the country as a back-up musician for well known artists such as Charlie Parker, Clifford Brown, Buddy DeFranco, Red Garland and Sara Vaughen. By the early 1960's, he found himself working with Chubby Checker, Dee Dee Sharp, Bobby Rydell, Frankie Avalon and Fabian, just to name a few, at Cameo/Parkway Records.

Vince contributed ideas and was instrumental in creating hit records which established the Philadelphia Sound. This work culminated in approximately 50 gold singles and albums. He also played for such well known people as The Delfonics, The Intruders, Johnnie Mathis, Eddie Kendricks, The Stylistics, Billie Paul, Harold Melvin and The Blue Notes. Vince also produced "MFSB" for Gamble & Huff, as well as having the privilege to be the lead vibist on the "Kemosabe" album, which was a Million Seller.

After working as one of five regular musicians on the Mike Douglas Show and studio player in the Philly area, he built his own studio behind his home. It incorporated elaborate commercial equipment and Vince spent many hours experimenting and creating a style of his own.

The turning point in his career came when Vince accepted a position with New York based Salsoul Records as a Producer, Writer and Arranger. Vincent Montana, Jr. then created the Salsoul Orchestra and, in so doing, was the first to approach the disco-pop market with a fully orchestrated sound.

His work has since earned him numerous awards including <u>Billboard's Top Disco Orchestra</u> of the Year in 1975, 1976, and 1977 and Arranger of the Year in 1977, also <u>Record World's</u> Top Orchestra awards in both R&B and Disco categories in 1977 and the Canadian Record Pool's "International Orchestra of the year 1977" to name only a few.

Vincent Montana, Jr. has clearly had a profound effect on the music filling discoteques all over the world.