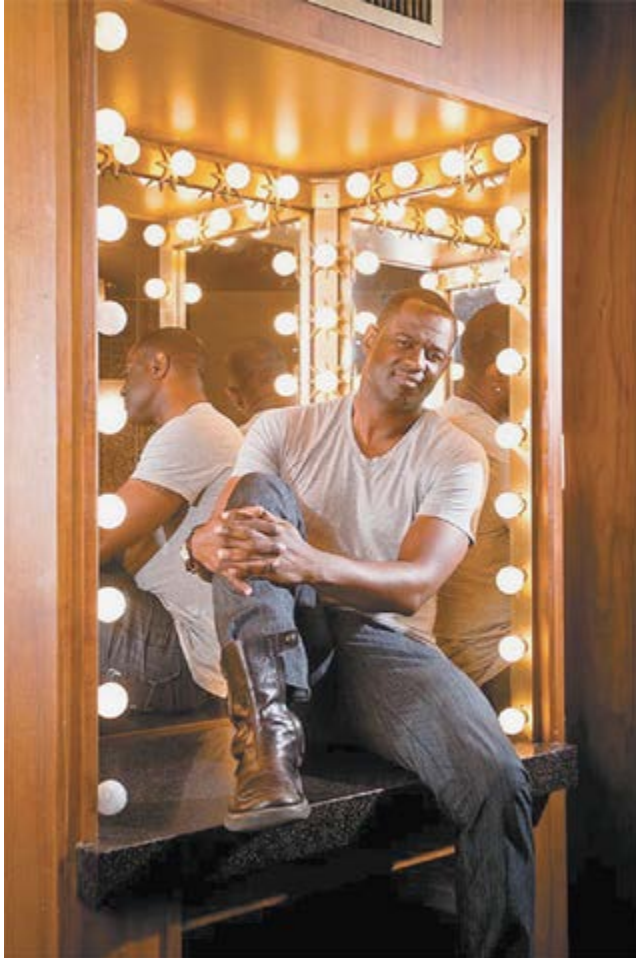


Glasgow brings big stars to add spice to Carnival

Published:

Monday, December 17, 2012



Promoter Randy Glasgow says American crooner Brian McKnight, above, will fit in with the pace of Ladies Night Out.

Ladies Night Out, one of the concert staples of the Carnival season, celebrates its tenth anniversary next year. And to commemorate this milestone, promoter Randy Glasgow says he is planning to throw the biggest event for Carnival 2013—apart from the International Soca Monarch competition, of course.

In an interview with the T&T Guardian, he said to celebrate a mega anniversary, it is going to be a mega concert.

As usual, top local and regional artistes will be part of the lineup on January 25, but the highlight of the evening will be a performance by American recording R&B/soul singer Brian McKnight.

But how does a smooth soul singer McKnight fit into the frenetic pace of the Carnival season? “Easy, the women love him!” said Glasgow. “If I felt it couldn't work, McKnight wouldn't be coming here.”

McKnight who has many number one hits and has sold more than 20 million albums worldwide, is a favourite with the ladies, and according to Glasgow, McKnight wants to make T&T's women “feel special.”

Glasgow said he's not only targeting the local market, but regional and international fans as well. “Normally people would pay a lot of money to see a star like Brian perform. They are getting him in the middle of the Carnival season quite reasonably and his being here will without a doubt attract tourists which is a good thing—this concert will attract women from throughout the islands and internationally,” the promoter explained.

The 43-year-old star is also expected to pay tribute to four leading female soca artistes - Destra Garcia, Denise “Saucy Wow” Belfon, Nadia Batson and Fay-Ann Lyons-Alvarez. Glasgow said these women will be saluted for their contribution to Ladies Night Out and the soca art form in general.

“The idea for this concert, in keeping with the anniversary celebration, was to give the women of T&T the best possible show they have ever experienced. This is for their loyalty and support to the Ladies Night Out concert each year.”

Kes the Band, Bunji Garlin, Roy Cape and Blaxx and Calypso Rose are also a part of the 2013 lineup. There will also be a special performance as Destra joins Roy Cape All Stars, the first band she ever sang with.

Glasgow said the four-hour long show will be “pure energy from start to finish”. He said another international act was expected to perform on the evening, but that is still being finalised.

Asked how he felt about the growth of the concert, Glasgow said: “I feel good. We were the same people who did Coca Cola Youth Fest where artistes like Destra and Bunji got their big breaks, so I feel particularly special to know that these artistes are still around, doing very well and they have remained a part of the show.”

Glasgow's expects his other big concert, the Chutney Brass Festival to be one of the highlights of Carnival 2013. While Ladies Night Out will have Brian McKnight as the headline act, the Chutney Brass Festival will feature Kumar Sanu, one of Bollywood's top singers. Sanu won the Filmfare Best Male Playback Award from 1991 to 1995.

Sanu is no stranger to T&T, as he has performed at a variety of Mother's Day and Valentine's Day concerts, but this is the first time he will be a part of the Carnival action. Glasgow said the singer was thrilled to be a part of the greatest show on earth.

"He has even tweaked a bit of his songs to suit the season," revealed Glasgow.

Randy Glasgow Productions has been running the Chutney Brass Festival for 11 years, and he boasted that the festival is responsible for the many chutney bands that exist today. He said the East Indian community was happy to see how the concert has evolved and how it continues to showcase the culture of one of the country's major ethnic groups.

He said with the news of Kumar Sanu performing, there have been people booking tickets from places like Spain, Holland, Toronto and Miami.

Glasgow also told the T&T Guardian that he has teamed up with Caribbean Prestige Founder William Munro to bid for the opportunity to take over the Dimanche Gras show. "If we get the chance to, all I can say is that it will be a show that will leave everyone satisfied. Let's just say greats like the Lord Kitchener—we will be bringing them back to life." he said, laughing.