



*christmas*

*body + soul*

SENSUAL SOUL COLLECTION

TWENTY-FOUR HOLIDAY GROOVES

# body + soul

TIME  
LIFE  
MUSIC

DISC ONE

DISC TWO

*Christmas Ain't Christmas*  
SWV

*This Is Christmas*  
Luther Vandross

*White Christmas*  
The Four Tops

*Baby It's Cold Outside*  
Vanessa Williams and Bobby Caldwell

*Merry Christmas Baby*  
The O'Jays

*The Christmas Song*  
Al Jarreau

*This Christmas*  
Stephanie Mills

*Let It Snow*  
Boyz II Men

*It's Christmas (All Over the World)*  
New Edition

*Special Gift*  
The Isley Brothers

*Give Love on Christmas Day*  
Johnny Gill

*What Are You Doing New Year's Eve*  
Patti LaBelle

1. *Silent Night*  
The Temptations

2. *Santa Claus Is Coming to Town*  
The Whispers

3. *The Mistletoe and Me*  
Isaac Hayes

4. *May Christmas Bring You Happiness*  
Luther Vandross

5. *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*  
Freddie Jackson

6. *I'll Be Home for Christmas*  
Al Green

7. *All I Want for Christmas*  
Angela Winbush

8. *Winter Wonderland*  
Take 6

9. *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*  
Brian McKnight

10. *I Want to Come Home for Christmas*  
Marvin Gaye

11. *Christmas Love*  
Rotary Connection

12. *Happy Holidays*  
The Ohio Players



UNIVERSAL MUSIC  
Special Markets

© 2001 Universal Music Enterprises, a division of UMG Recordings, Inc., Santa Monica, CA 90404. Manufactured for Time-Life Music by Universal Music Enterprises. All rights reserved. Unauthorized duplication is a violation of applicable laws. Printed in U.S.A. © 2001 Time Life Inc. For information about this and other Time-Life Music releases, call us toll-free at (800) 488-4669, or write to Time-Life Music, 1450 E. Parham Rd., Richmond, VA 23280-2300. And be sure to visit our Web site at [www.timelife.com](http://www.timelife.com).

R794-22  
314560544-2



body + soul  
christmas

R794-22  
314560544-2

DISC ONE

# body + soul

christmas

1. *Christmas Ain't Christmas* SWV
2. *This Is Christmas* Luther Vandross
3. *White Christmas* The Four Tops
4. *Baby It's Cold Outside*  
Vanessa Williams and Bobby Caldwell
5. *Merry Christmas Baby*  
The O'Jays
6. *The Christmas Song*  
Al Jarreau
7. *This Christmas* Stephanie Mills
8. *Let It Snow* Boyz II Men
9. *It's Christmas (All Over the  
World)* New Edition
10. *Special Gift* The Isley Brothers
11. *Give Love on Christmas Day* Johnny Gill
12. *What Are You Doing  
New Year's Eve* Patti LaBelle

© 2001 Universal Music Enterprises, a Division of  
UMG Recordings, Inc., Santa Monica, CA 90404.  
Manufactured for Time-Life Music by Universal  
Music Enterprises. All rights reserved.  
Unauthorized duplication is a violation of  
applicable laws. Made in U.S.A.

UNIVERSAL MUSIC  
Special Markets

TIME LIFE MUSIC  
R794-22  
314560545-2  
DIGITAL AUDIO  
COMPACT DISC

DISC TWO

body +  
soul

1. *Silent Night* The Temptations

2. *Santa Claus Is Coming to Town*  
The Whispers

3. *The Mistletoe and Me* Isaac Hayes

4. *May Christmas Bring You  
Happiness* Luther Vandross

5. *Have Yourself a Merry Little  
Christmas* Freddie Jackson

6. *I'll Be Home for Christmas*  
Al Green

7. *All I Want for Christmas*  
Angela Winbush

8. *Winter Wonderland* Take 6

9. *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen*  
Brian McKnight

10. *I Want to Come Home for Christmas*  
Marvin Gaye

11. *Christmas Love* Rotary Connection

12. *Happy Holidays* The Ohio Players

christmas

© 2001 Universal Music Enterprises, a Division of  
UMG Recordings, Inc., Santa Monica, CA 90404.

Manufactured for Time-Life Music by Universal  
Music Enterprises. All rights reserved.

Unauthorized duplication is a violation of  
applicable laws. Made in U.S.A.

UNIVERSAL MUSIC  
Special Markets

TIME<sup>®</sup> R794-22  
LIFE 314560546-2  
MUSIC  
COMPACT  
disc  
DIGITAL AUDIO

# *christmas*

If you think you know Christmas music, here's a surprise: It's not all

sugary old-movie standards and overplayed mall hymns. R&B artists have repeatedly proven that

the feelings brought on by the holiday season can be expressed as soulfully as any other senti-

ments. The tried-and-true seasonal songs have most of the emotional bases covered, from winter

romance (Vanessa Williams on a hot date in **Baby It's Cold Outside**) to a longing for home (Al

Green adding soul fire to the classic **I'll Be Home for Christmas**) to wistfulness over Christmases

past (Freddie Jackson delivering a poignant take on **Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas**). But

some R&B artists, whether rooted in bad-habits blues or church testifying, have been inspired to

record original Christmas songs. The sweet sounds of Marvin Gaye's **I Want to Come Home for**

**Christmas** and Isaac Hayes' **The Mistletoe and Me** not only add new shades to the kaleidoscope

of established holiday tunes, they're Christmas must-haves waiting to happen.

# artist spotlights

*Luther Vandross* is never content to let someone else control his music; maybe that's why he waited until 1995 to release *This Is*



*Christmas*, his first full-length holiday album. In the days when he went by just Luther, his self-penned *May Christmas Bring You Happiness* made a splash on Atco's essential compilation *Soul Christmas*. But by

the time *This Is Christmas* was released, Vandross had become a soul legend, with a voice recognized worldwide for its lush, burnished warmth and steely, masculine core. He had also gained stature as a songwriter, and brought his writing skills to the project, composing the title tune and six others. A perfectionist behind the microphone and an accomplished engineer in the studio—he has arranged and produced albums for other soul and pop artists throughout his stellar career—Vandross wanted his contribution to holiday music to sound definitive. These two singles are proof that he succeeded; they're plush as a velvet bolster, generous as Santa Claus himself, and as melodic as a thousand bells.

When *Al Jarreau* received his master's degree in psychology, little did he know how useful that training would be even as he rejected the academic life for the glamorous ramble of a working musician. Much of Jarreau's success stems from his keen sensitivity to many different types of music—from intricate bebop to wailing soul to crowd-pleasing pop—and his deep understanding of the emotional power that music has for the listener. No wonder that he's the only artist ever to win Grammys in pop, R&B and jazz; score numerous top-10 hits; and be recognized by music cognoscenti as one of the industry's most accomplished performers. In 1982, after the mainstream success of his best-selling *Breakin' Away* album, Jarreau released his version of *The Christmas Song* as a single. This litany of all things warm and wonderful about the holiday season was originally immortalized by Nat King Cole, and Jarreau shares with him a light, sensual tenor and a nuanced delivery. But Jarreau adds his own jazz-inspired vocal embellishments, turning one classic into another.



*Take 6* toured with Al Jarreau, but this vocal sextet continued down a more enlightened path than that of their onetime stagemate. When college friends Mark Kibble and Claude V. McKnight III put their heads together in the early 1980s and dreamed of founding an old-style spiritual/doo-wop harmony group, there weren't many ensembles in the musical landscape that matched that description. Kibble and McKnight drafted singers David Thomas, Alvin Chea, Cedric Dent and Mark's brother Joey, and proceeded to put not only their talent but their faith into action. What followed was a two-decade-plus career, during which the group recorded spirituals, gospel songs and romantic ballads. In keeping with their vow to never record a Christmas album that exploited the sacred meaning of the season, *Take 6* released *We Wish You a Merry Christmas* in 1999. The album was a tour de force; it tapped the spiritual content of the merriest secular tunes—including a swooningly harmonious version of *Winter Wonderland*—and expanded the meaning of the more reverent classics.



After the career slowdown of New Jack Swing trio Bell Biv DeVoe, BBD member Michael Bivins masterminded a new ensemble, one that zeroed in on the vocal-harmony sound popularized by *Take 6*. Bivins found another



wave of success and made superstars of Wanya Morris, Michael McCary, Nathan Morris and Shawn Stockman, a.k.a. *Boyz II Men*. Their debut album, *Cooleyhighharmony* (1991), lent urban cool to street-corner

doo-wop. The group's hip-hop edge attracted a new generation of fans, while their seamless vocal unity charmed those who were familiar with the sound's musical predecessors of the '50s and '60s. In 1993, *Boyz II Men* put out a holiday recording called simply *Christmas Interpretations*. The album features the young men doing what they're famous for: claiming a selection of classics by rendering them in their own unique vocal style. A slowed-down and fancied-up *Let It Snow* retains the secular classic's breezy sense of joy while injecting the old tune with lush romanticism.

# discography

## DISC ONE

1. *Christmas Ain't  
Christmas*

**SWV**

(Huff-Gamble)

Warner-Tamerlane Publ. Corp. BMI.

© 1997 BMG Entertainment. Courtesy of the  
RCA Music Group, Under License from BMG  
Special Products.

2. *This Is Christmas*

**Luther Vandross**

(Vandross-Vertelney)

EMI April Music, Inc./Uncle Ronnie's Music  
Company, Inc. ASCAP. Reed Vertelney Music/  
Sony/ATV Songs LLC. BMI. © 1995 Sony  
Music Entertainment Inc. Under License From  
Sony Music Special Products, A Division Of  
Sony Music, A Group Of Sony Music  
Entertainment Inc.

3. *White Christmas*

**The Four Tops**

(Irving Berlin)

Irving Berlin Music Company. ASCAP.

© 1995 Motown Records, a Division of UMG  
Recordings, Inc.

4. *Baby It's Cold  
Outside*

**Vanessa Williams  
and Bobby Caldwell**

(Frank Loesser)

Frank Music Corp. ASCAP.

© 1996 The Island Def Jam Music Group.

5. *Merry Christmas  
Baby*

**The O'Jays**

(Moore-Baxter)

Anne-Rachel Music Corporation. ASCAP.

© 1980 EMI Records. Courtesy EMI Records,  
Under License from EMI-Capitol Music  
Special Markets.

6. *The Christmas Song*

**Al Jarreau**

(Tormé-Wells)

Edwin H. Morris & Co. Inc. ASCAP.

© 1982 Warner Bros. Records Inc. Produced  
Under License From Warner Bros. Records Inc.

7. *This Christmas*

**Stephanie Mills**

(Hathaway-McKinnor)

Crystal Raisin/Kuumba o/b/o WB Music  
Corp. ASCAP. © 1991 MCA Records.

8. *Let It Snow*

**Boyz II Men**

(Brian McKnight)

Cancelled Lunch Music/Universal PolyGram  
International Publishing Inc. ASCAP.

© 1993 Motown Records, a Division of  
UMG Recordings, Inc.

9. *It's Christmas  
(All Over the World)*

**New Edition**

(House-Hobbs)

Puffy Music/Screen Gems-EMI Music Inc.  
BMI. © 1985 MCA Records.

10. *Special Gift*

**The Isley Brothers**

(Davis-Brown)

EMI Blackwood Music Inc./Stan Brown  
Music. BMI. © 1996 The Island Def Jam  
Music Group.

11. *Give Love on  
Christmas Day*

**Johnny Gill**

(Gordy-Mizell-Perren-Richards-Yarian)

Jobete Music Co. Inc. ASCAP.

© 1989 Motown Records, a Division of  
UMG Recordings, Inc.

12. *What Are You Doing  
New Year's Eve*

**Patti LaBelle**

(Frank Loesser)

Frank Music Corp. ASCAP.

© 1990 MCA Records.



DISC TWO

1. *Silent Night*  
**The Temptations**  
(Gruber-Mohr)  
Public Domain. Courtesy of Motown Records,  
under license from Universal Music Enterprises.
2. *Santa Claus Is  
Coming to Town*  
**The Whispers**  
(Coots-Gillespie)  
EMI Feist Catalog Inc./Haven Gillespie  
Music. ASCAP. © 1985 Solar Records.  
Courtesy Solar Records, Under License from  
EMI-Capitol Music Special Markets.
3. *The Mistletoe  
and Me*  
**Isaac Hayes**  
(Isaac Hayes)  
Scion Music Inc./Screen Gems-EMI Music  
Inc. BMI. Courtesy of Fantasy, Inc.
4. *May Christmas  
Bring You Happiness*  
**Luther Vandross**  
(Luther Vandross)  
Elvee-Deekay Music. ASCAP. © 1991  
Atlantic Recording Corp. Produced Under  
License From Atlantic Recording Corp.
5. *Have Yourself a  
Merry Little  
Christmas*  
**Freddie Jackson**  
(Martin-Blane)  
EMI Feist Catalog Inc. ASCAP. © 1994  
BMG Entertainment. Courtesy of the RCA  
Music Group, Under License from BMG  
Special Products.
6. *I'll Be Home for  
Christmas*  
**Al Green**  
(Ram-Gannon)  
Gannon & Kent Music Company/Piedmont  
Music Company. ASCAP. © 1983 Hi  
Recording Corp. Courtesy Hi Records,  
Under License from EMI-Capitol Music  
Special Markets.
7. *All I Want for  
Christmas*  
**Angela Winbush**  
(Stanley Brown)  
Stan Brown Music. BMI. © 1996 The Island  
Def Jam Music Group.
8. *Winter Wonderland*  
**Take 6**  
(Bernard-Smith, arr. by Kibble-Dent)  
Bregman Vocco & Conn Inc. ASCAP. © 1999  
Warner Bros. Records Inc. Produced Under  
License From Warner Bros. Records Inc.
9. *God Rest Ye Merry  
Gentlemen*  
**Brian McKnight**  
(Brian McKnight)  
Let's Have Lunch Music/Universal PolyGram  
International Publishing Inc. ASCAP.  
© 1990 The Island Def Jam Music Group.
10. *I Want to Come  
Home for Christmas*  
**Marvin Gaye**  
(Gaye-Hairston)  
Jobete Music Co. Inc. ASCAP.  
© 1972 Motown Records, a Division of  
UMG Recordings, Inc.
11. *Christmas Love*  
**Rotary Connection**  
(Webber-Thompson)  
Arc Music Corp./Big Star/Cheris Publishing  
Corp. BMI. © 1988 MCA Records.
12. *Happy Holidays*  
**The Ohio Players**  
(Jones-Beck-Bonner-Middlebrooks-Pierce-  
Satchell-Williams)  
Rick's Music Inc. BMI. © 1975 The Island  
Def Jam Music Group.



**President:** Mark Stevens  
**Vice President, Marketing:** Mitchell Peyser  
**Vice President, New Product Development:** Gene Zacharewicz  
**Executive Producer:** Robert Hull  
**Director, Creative Services:** Suzanne Manlove  
**Manager, Creative Services:** Elizabeth Riedl  
**Coordinator, Creative Services:** Emily Rollert  
**Senior Manager, Operations:** Jennifer Thomas  
**Manager, Licensing:** Genhel Mendenhall  
**Manager, New Product Development:** Dana Levitas  
**Recording Producer/Consultant:** Joe Sasfy  
**Mastering Engineer:** Dennis Drake  
**Special Contributors:** Olivia Kim, Tish King, Jan Stanley

**Design:** Red Herring Design

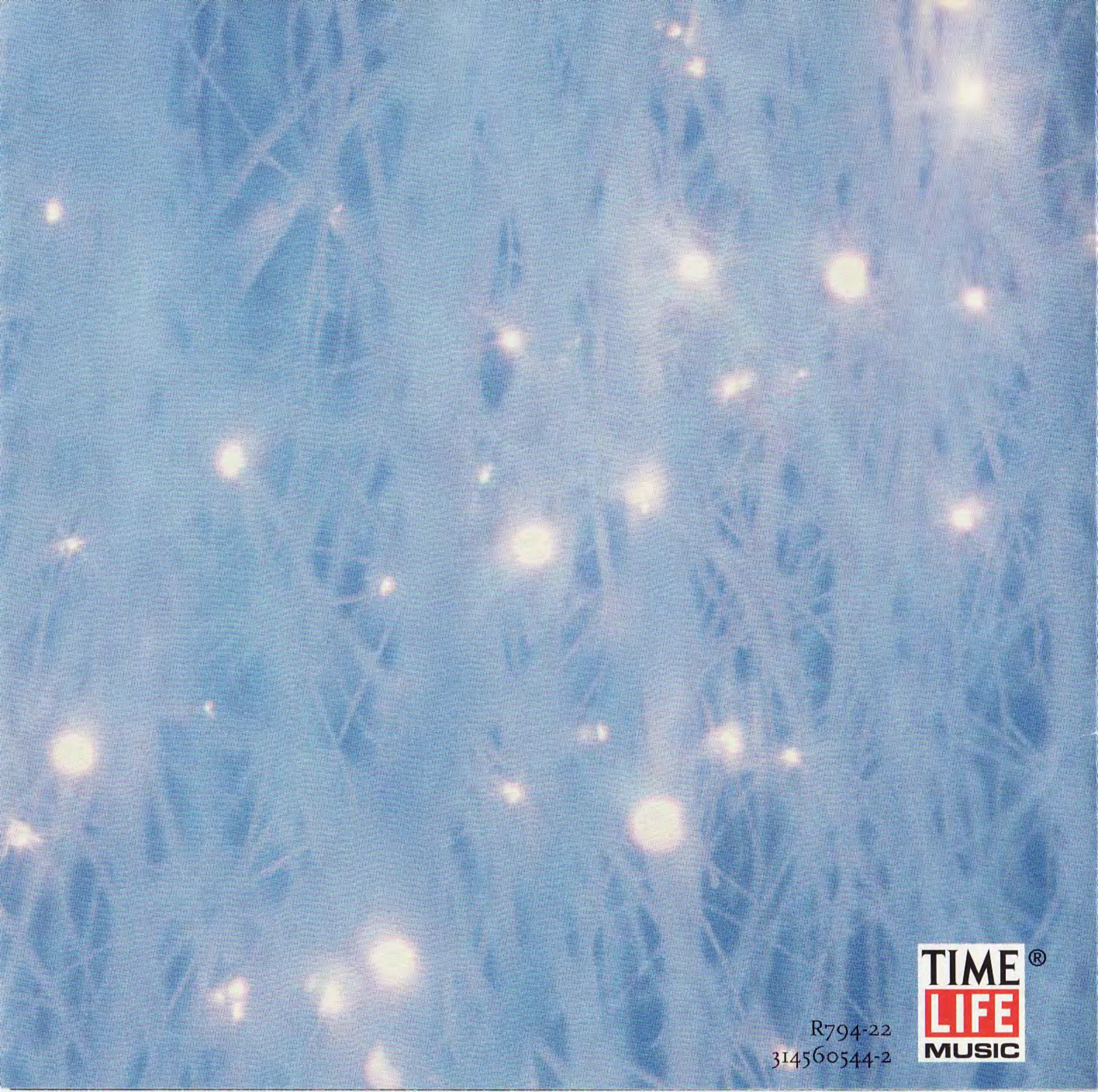
**The Author:** Arion Berger is a freelance arts writer. Her work has appeared in numerous magazines and newspapers, including *Rolling Stone*, the *Village Voice* and the *New Republic*. She is an adjunct professor of English at Georgetown University.

**Picture Credits:** Cover photography: Joanne Savio; background photography © Gyro Photography/Photonica; photo of Luther Vandross © Tom Sheehan/ London Features; Al Jarreau courtesy Photofest; Take 6 © Walter McBride/Retna; Boys II Men © Ron Wolfson/London Features.

UNIVERSAL MUSIC  
Special Markets

© 2001 Universal Music Enterprises, a Division of UMG Recordings, Inc., Santa Monica, CA 90404. Manufactured for Time-Life Music by Universal Music Enterprises. All rights reserved. Unauthorized duplication is a violation of applicable laws. Printed in U.S.A. TIME-LIFE MUSIC is a division of Time Life Inc. © 2001 Time Life Inc. TIME-LIFE is a trademark of Time Warner Inc. and affiliated companies.

R794-22  
314560544-2



R794-22  
314560544-2

**TIME**®  
**LIFE**  
**MUSIC**