



MARCIA GRIFFITHS Sweet And Nice

Label
BE WITH RECORDS

Format
2LP
Catalog Number
BEWITH 056LP

EAN
4251648412533



Store Price
\$26.39

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08/16/19

Territory
U.S. EXCLUSIVE (No Exports)

Genre
FILE UNDER - G - ROCK



Exclusively Distributed by
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DESCRIPTION

Be With Records present a reissue of *Sweet And Nice*, the vital debut album from Jamaica's undisputed first lady of song **Marcia Griffiths**, originally released in 1974. It's reggae at its most soulful. Slinking through a tight ten tracks of R&B and pop-sourced material, it became an instant best seller. *Sweet And Nice* has appeared over the years with a revised running order and under different titles. But the original's opening sequence of loping soul is legendary, even beyond reggae circles. These songs are now returned to how they were presented on that first Jamaican release, and under their intended album title. Be With doesn't mess with magic. Marcia's version of "Here I Am (Come and Take Me)" has long been lusted after, played by genre-hopping selectors to snapping necks for decades now. It's followed by the sophisticated, rollicking wah-wah funk of "Everything I Own" and the slice of smooth lovers soul par excellence that is "Green Grasshopper" and her ace, lilting **Neil Diamond** cover "Play Me". The thundering, humid funk of "Children At Play" "*sounds uncannily like a precursor of **Massive Attack***", as FACT Mag astutely noted when they put *Sweet And Nice* at number 16 in their list of the 100 best albums of the 1970s. Otherworldly, moody, and essential. Side two keeps the fire burning. "Sweet, Bitter Love" should leave you swooning, and is also one of the album's alternate titles. **Curtis Mayfield**'s already-eternal "Gypsy Man" follows, recast as proto-lovers rock. "There's No Me Without You" is elevated to canonical status by the majestic, forlorn horns of the **Federal Soul Givers** and Marcia's heartbreaking delivery. And if this doesn't get you then surely the next track will: arguably the definitive version of **Ewan MacColl**'s "The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face". "I Just Don't Want To Be Lonely" re-takes its rightful place at the end of the LP's second side... but Be With Records added an entire second record of rare material recorded around the same time as *Sweet And Nice*, much of it unavailable since it was originally released. Amongst these 14 extra tracks you'll find the exquisite late-60s singles "Melody Life" and "Mark My Word" which, along with the sumptuous reading of "Band Of Gold". All material is remastered. 140 gram vinyl.

TRACKLISTING

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| A1. Here I Am Baby (Come And Take Me) | C1. Mark My Word |
| A2. Everything I Own | C2. The First Cut Is The Deepest |
| A3. Green Grasshopper | C3. Melody Life |
| A4. Play Me | C4. Work And Slave |
| A5. Children At Play | C5. Working To The Top (My Ambition) (Part 1) |
| B1. Sweet Bitter Love | C6. Don't Let Me Down |
| B2. Gypsy Man | C7. Band Of Gold |
| B3. There's No Me Without You | D1. Put A Little Love In Your Heart |
| B4. The First Time Ever I Saw Your Face | D2. I See You, My Love |
| B5. I Just Don't Want To Be Lonely | D3. It's Too Late |
| | D4. Baby If You Don't Love Me |
| | D5. Love Walked In |
| | D6. When Will I See You Again |
| | D7. Play Me (Part 2) |

HIGHLIGHTS

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- It's reggae at its most soulful. Slinking through a tight ten tracks of R&B and pop-sourced material, it became an instant best seller.
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