

# Funk The Music People And Rhythm Of One Rickey Vincent

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*Legendary Bass Funkateer* Melville House Funk used to be a bad word. That was then. Now, funk is a pervasive style of music that has earned its rightful place alongside such other aural American art forms such as folk, blues, jazz and rock 'n roll. What's more, for those who free themselves, funk is a positive state of consciousness that brings together mind, body and soul in a quasi-spiritual experience of mesmerizing intensity. It took quite a while for funk to gain the respect it deserves. As with most other American music forms of the 20th century, funk remained a predominantly black phenomenon until the white public caught up and embraced it some 20 years after the fact. It had to survive the psychedelic 1960s, the disco 1970s and the new wave 1980s. This long-overdue book is a labor of love from a devout lifelong funk enthusiast. Everything Is on the One: The First Guide to Funk is designed to serve as an eye-opener for the uninitiated and as a reference guide for those already indoctrinated. The following pages thoroughly examine every aspect of funk through the inclusion of assorted text, reviews and lists. Everyone from J.B., Sly Stone and Hendrix to Clinton, Prince and the Red Hot Chili Peppers to Kool & the Gang and the Isley Brothers to the Bar-Kays and Slave to Run-D.M.C. and Dr. Dre to Stanley Clarke and Tom Browne to Muddy Waters and Stevie Ray Vaughan to the Talking Heads and Aerosmith is covered. There isn't really any specific formula for funk. But, you must have the right attitude and the music has to be on THE ONE. THE ONE stands for the first beat of standard four/four time in music (four counts per measure). Funk jumps on the first beat with a hard accent and then lays back in the groove for counts two through four. So just about everything in this book is on THE ONE. The content of this book is intended to be opinionated. It

is designed to stimulate intelligent debate as to myriad topics that fall under the umbrella of funk. The objective is not to bash musical achievements or pursue character assassinations, but at the same time, measures are necessary to ensure the book's integrity. There are far too many music publications out there that find pandering to the industry and soft-pedaling issues seemingly unavoidable. This isn't one of them. By the same token, exceptional artists and outstanding work are given their just due. At this point, a word of caution is in order. Funk is extremely addictive and frequently results in an unquenchable desire to fill your ear hole with thumpin', bumpin', slammin', jammin' tunes. It can be an expensive habit, but always an immensely rewarding one. So slap your favorite jams into your stereo or iPod and read to the rhythmic rush while *The First Guide of Funk* does it to your eyeballs baby bobba!

**The One Mel Bay Publications**  
The first in-depth biography of one of music's most fascinating, colourful and innovative characters. This book is the most comprehensive history yet of the life, music and cultural significance of the last of the great black music pioneers and the era which spawned him. Clinton stands alongside James Brown, Jimi Hendrix and Sly Stone as one of the most influential black artists of all time who, along with his vast P-Funk army took black funk into the US charts and sold out stadiums by the mid 1970s with his mind-blowing shows and legendary Mothership extravaganzas. The book contains first hand interview material with Clinton, Bootsy Collins, Jerome Bigfoot Brailey, Junie Morrison, Bobby Gillespie, Afrika Bambaataa, Jalal Nuriddin (Last Poets), Juan Atkins, John Sinclair, Rob Tyner (MC5), Ed Sanders (The Fugs), Chip Monck ("The Voice of Woodstock") plus other P-Funk associates and friends. The book presents an

insiders' view of the rise of Parliament and Funkadelic from the doowop era and LSD-crazed early shows through to P-Funk's huge rise, the era of the Mothership and beyond.

*Funk Guitar and Bass* Duke University Press

*Funk*: It's the only musical genre ever to have transformed the nation into a throbbing army of bell-bottomed, hoop-eared, rainbow-Afro'd warriors on the dance floor. Its rhythms and lyrics turned bleak urban realities inside out with distinctive, danceable, downright irresistible music. Funk hasn't received the critical attention that rock, jazz, and the blues have-until now. Colorful, intelligent, and in-your-face, Rickey Vincent's *Funk* celebrates the songs, the musicians, the philosophy, and the meaning of funk. The book spans from the early work of James Brown (the Godfather of Funk) through today, covering funky soul (Stevie Wonder, the Temptations), so-called "black rock" (Jimi Hendrix, Sly and the Family Stone, the Isley Brothers), jazz-funk (Miles Davis, Herbie Hancock), monster funk (Parliament, Funkadelic, Bootsy's Rubber Band), naked funk (Rick James, Gap Band), disco-funk (Chic, K.C. and the Sunshine Band), funky pop (Kool & the Gang, Chaka Khan), P-Funk Hip Hop (Digital Underground, De La Soul), funk-sampling rap (Ice Cube, Dr. Dre), funk rock (Red Hot Chili Peppers, Primus), and more. Funk tells a vital, vibrant history-the history of a uniquely American music born out of tradition and community, filled with energy, attitude, anger, hope, and an irrepressible spirit.

**Glow U of Minnesota Press**

*Funk Music: A Critical Enquiry* renders Funk Music through revealing interdisciplinary perspectives, focusing on its roots, P-Funk, and the classic 1960-70s era. The author, Williams, challenges his readers to understand Funk Music in new ways. *Funk Music: A Critical Enquiry* asks fundamental

questions about the context of Funk music; whether it was simply the result of a historical moment or the commodification of Black struggle, to notions of 'Black voice' and authenticity in performance. Williams offers an alternative analysis of the Funk Music sound, focusing on ways to approach the music where traditional musicology has failed. Williams also traces the roots of the P-Funk aesthetic through Biblical ideology and African ontology asking whether the Mothership Connection really was just about a pimp in a spaceship-shaped papier-mâché Cadillac. This phenomenological analysis presents readers with a starting point for a range of further reading, exploring links between Funk Music and musicology, semiotics, historical study, cultural analysis, political discourse, race relations, as well as a range of ontological, metaphysical and religious perspectives. Little else has been written specifically about Funk music in any academic context, whether purely or jointly from musical, historical, cultural, or political standpoints. This book brings all these stems together in one place.

**Funk** Chicago Review Press

(Musicians Institute Press). Go one on one with MI instructor Ross Bolton to get that funk groove with your guitar! This book/CD pack covers: movable 7th, 9th, 13th and sus4 chords; 16th-note scratching; straight vs. swing; slides; single-note "skank" and palm muting; songs and progressions; and more. The CD includes 70 full-band tracks.

**Brothas Be, Yo Like George, Ain't That Funkin' Kinda Hard On You?** Penguin

National Book Award winner James McBride goes in search of the real James Brown and his surprising journey illuminates not only our understanding of the Godfather of Soul but the ways in which our cultural heritage has been shaped by Brown's legacy.

**The Funk Queen** Createspace Independent Publishing Platform

With Hit Me, Fred, sensational sideman Fred Wesley Jr. moves front and center to tell his life story. A legendary funk, soul, and jazz musician, Wesley is best known for his work in the late sixties and early seventies with James Brown and as the leader of Brown's band, Fred Wesley and the JB's. Having been the band's music director, arranger, trombone player, and frequent composer, Wesley is one of the original architects of funk music. He describes what it was like working for the Godfather of Soul, revealing the struggle and sometimes stringent discipline behind Brown's tight, raucous tunes. After leaving Brown and the JB's, Wesley arranged the horn sections for Parliament, Funkadelic, and Bootsy's Rubber Band, and led Fred Wesley and the Horny Horns. Adding his signature horn arrangements to the P-Funk mix, Wesley made funk music even funkier. Wesley's distinctive sound reverberates through rap and hip-hop music today. In Hit Me, Fred, he recalls the many musicians whose influence he absorbed, beginning with his grandmother and father—both music teachers—and including mentors in his southern Alabama hometown and members

of the Army band. In addition to the skills he developed working with James Brown, George Clinton, Bootsy Collins, and the many talented musicians in their milieu, Wesley describes the evolution of his trombone playing through stints with the Ike and Tina Turner Revue, Hank Ballard, and Count Basie's band. He also recounts his education in the music business, particularly through his work in Los Angeles recording sessions. Wesley is a virtuoso storyteller, whether he's describing the electric rush of performances when the whole band is in the groove, the difficulties of trying to make a living as a rhythm and blues musician, or the frustrations often felt by sidemen. Hit Me, Fred is Wesley's story of music-making in all its grit and glory.

**The Music Lesson** Univ of California Press  
An updated, expanded history of techno music with special attention to its roots in Detroit.

**Funky Nassau** Hal Leonard Corporation  
From Grammy-winning musical icon and legendary bassist Victor L. Wooten comes an inspiring parable of music, life, and the difference between playing all the right notes...and feeling them. **The Music Lesson** is the story of a struggling young musician who wanted music to be his life, and who wanted his life to be great. Then, from nowhere it seemed, a teacher arrived. Part musical genius, part philosopher, part eccentric wise man, the teacher would guide the young musician on a spiritual journey, and teach him that the gifts we get from music mirror those from life, and every movement, phrase, and chord has its own meaning...All you have to do is find the song inside. "The best book on music (and its connection to the mystic laws of life) that I've ever read. I learned so much on every level."—Multiple Grammy Award-winning saxophonist Michael Brecker

**The Beat** Springer

**The Beat!** was the first book to explore the musical, social, and cultural phenomenon of go-go music. In this edition, updated by a substantial chapter on the current scene, authors Kip Lornell and Charles C. Stephenson, Jr., place go-go within black popular music made since the middle 1970s—a period during which hip-hop has predominated. This styling reflects the District's African American heritage. Its supercharged drumming and vocal combinations of hip-hop, funk, and soul evolved and still thrive on the streets of Washington, DC, and in neighboring Prince George's County, making it the most geographically compact form of popular music. Go-go—the only musical form indigenous to Washington, DC—features a highly syncopated, nonstop beat and vocals that are spoken as well as sung. The book chronicles its development and ongoing popularity, focusing on many of its key figures and institutions, including established acts such as Chuck Brown (the Godfather of Go-

Go), Experience Unlimited, Rare Essence, and Trouble Funk; well-known DJs, managers, and promoters; and filmmakers who have incorporated it into their work. **The Beat!** provides longtime fans and those who study American musical forms a definitive look at the music and its makers.

**Funk! It's What's for Dinner** St. Martin's Griffin

With Gracious Gratitude, I am so excited that God had a plan for me at this point in my life, to have met an outstanding entertainer to write about. I never thought in my wildest dreams that I would be writing a book. I realize I can step out on faith with the courage to talk about my life. Along with the choices that I've made, which have made me very strong through most of my journey? It has taught me some of lifespans greatest lessons. You can do anything, if you put your mind to it. This is an exciting and unbelievable transition. This is a biographical novel consisting of episodes and recollections from my life as I lived it with Mark Adams, bass player and songwriter from the Funk Band, Slave. This novel is based on a combination of personal experiences, specific people, places, and events. Mark Adams was a bass playing phenomenon that truly brought the Funk to the music of the 70s and 80s. Mark was born in Dayton, Ohio, where he started playing music at a young age. He also composed and wrote a great amount of songs that were performed by the Funk Group, Slave. Such as Just a Touch of Love, Watching Ladies, Slide, and Baby wait for me, to name a few. His music is currently played today on radio stations around the world, and the United States. God truly blessed him with his talent. Mark was a legend in his own time, and a good hearted man. Soon after Mark moved in with me, he told me he now sees that the best things in life are free. Most people want material things like money, cars, jewelry, etc. But it is what a person is like on the inside that matters most. Other than his music that he shares with the world, he feels that his main purpose is to change his way of living and improve his life condition. I told him that he is in the right place, and you have my full support. I know that I am not an angel, and I am far from being perfect. We all have our good points along with the bad. We are all on the journey back to our true selves in perfection of spirit in our souls. We offer you our insight to show the way for you not to go, or to go. By knowing the expected consequences, make your choices in awareness, not in ignorance. Thus, we may shine a little light on your path to enjoyment and pleasure in peace and love.

**Motown** Simon and Schuster

In **20 Jazz Funk Greats** Drew Daniel (of the experimental band Matmos) creates—through both his own insights and exclusive interviews with the band—an exploded view of the album's multiple agendas: a series of close readings of each song, shot through with a sequence of thematic entries on key concepts, strategies, and contexts (noise,

leisure, process, the abject, information, and repetition). This is a smart and unusual book about a pioneering band.

**Funk** Penguin

Guitar- og el-basguitarskole.

### **Complete Funk Drumming Book** Mel Bay Publications

The essays contained in this volume address some of the most visible, durable and influential of African American musical styles as they developed from the mid-1960s into the 21st-century. Soul, funk, pop, R&B and hip hop practices are explored both singly and in their many convergences, and in writings that have often become regarded as landmarks in black musical scholarship. These works employ a wide range of methodologies, and taken together they show the themes and concerns of academic black musical study developing over three decades. While much of the writing here is focused on music and musicians in the United States, the book also documents important and emergent trends in the study of these styles as they have spread across the world. The volume maintains the original publication format and pagination of each essay, making for easy and accurate cross-reference and citation. Tom Perchard's introduction gives a detailed overview of the book's contents, and of the field as a whole, situating the present essays in a longer and wider tradition of African American music studies. In bringing together and contextualising works that are always valuable but sometimes difficult to access, the volume forms an excellent introductory resource for university music students and researchers.

*The Great Funk* Sarah Crichton Books

This is the most complete presentation of today's popular funk drumming style available. This book takes you from the very roots of rock and rhythm'n'blues drumming to the highly complex, multidirectional funk styles of today. He also details certain subtleties heretofore only a seasoned veteran would understand. While most drum instruction books concentrate on developing technique, reading ability, or independent coordination, this unique book accurately documents what is hip in rock'n'roll drumming today. The contents are geared to prepare the student for survival in a live playing situation. The book is a valid representation of what people want to hear from a drummer in a working situation - live or in the studio. It contains exercises drawn from many different influences covering coordination, rhythms, patterns, and phrasing.

**Dust & Grooves** Duke University Press

This 248 page book is an exciting documentation of the innovative period of the '60s and '70s when the rhythm of popular music was changed forever. Featured here are biographies, interviews, discographies and rare archival photos of more than 20 great drummers of R&B, funk and soul,

including the drummers of James Brown, Earth, Wind and Fire, Otis Redding and Sly and the Family Stone. The true originators of the modern hip-hop beats tell their stories, and the history of the funk comes to life. Appropriate for music fans of all kinds, and all drummers: beginners thru advanced.

*Throbbing Gristle's Twenty Jazz Funk Greats* Routledge

Tony Bolden presents an innovative history of funk music focused on the performers, regarding them as intellectuals who fashioned a new aesthetic. Utilizing musicology, literary studies, performance studies, and African American intellectual history, Bolden explores what it means for music, or any cultural artifact, to be funky. Multitudes of African American musicians and dancers created aesthetic frameworks with artistic principles and cultural politics that proved transformative. Bolden approaches the study of funk and black musicians by examining aesthetics, poetics, cultural history, and intellectual history. The study traces the concept of funk from early blues culture to a metamorphosis into a full-fledged artistic framework and a named musical genre in the 1970s, and thereby Bolden presents an alternative reading of the blues tradition. In part one of this two-part book, Bolden undertakes a theoretical examination of the development of funk and the historical conditions in which black artists reimagined their music. In part two, he provides historical and biographical studies of key funk artists, all of whom transfigured elements of blues tradition into new styles and visions. Funk artists, like their blues relatives, tended to contest and contextualize racialized notions of blackness, sexualized notions of gender, and bourgeois notions of artistic value. Funk artists displayed contempt for the status quo and conveyed alternative stylistic concepts and social perspectives through multimedia expression. Bolden argues that on this road to cultural recognition, funk accentuated many of the qualities of black expression that had been stigmatized throughout much of American history.

**Funk Guitar** Chicago Review Press

Introduction This book, "The History of Funk Music" is about the life of James Brown and other Funk Entertainers. The Godfather of Soul was James Brown, who was an American Singer, Songwriter, Musician, and Recording artist. He is the originator of Funk Music and is a major figure of 20th Century popular music and dance. In a career that spanned six decades, Brown profoundly influenced the development of many different musical genres. Brown moved on a continuum of Blues and Gospel-based forms and styles to a profoundly

"Africanized" approach to music making. Brown performed in Concerts, first making his rounds across the Chittlin' Circuit, and then across the Country and later around the world, along with appearing in shows on television and in movies. Although he contributed much to the music World through his hit-making, Brown holds the Record as the artist who charted the most singles on the Billboard Hot 100 without ever hitting number one on that chart. For many years, Brown's touring show was one of the most extravagant productions in American popular music. At the time of Brown's death, his band included three guitarists, two bass guitar players, two drummers, three horns and a percussionist. The bands that he maintained during the late 1960s and 1970s were of comparable size, and the bands also included a three-piece amplified string section that played during ballads. Brown employed between 40 and 50 people for the James Brown Revue, and members of the revue traveled with him in a bus to cities and towns all over the Country, performing upwards of 330 shows a year with almost all of the shows as one-nighters. In 1986, he was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and in 1990 into the Songwriters Hall of Fame. Also included in this book is: The History of Funk Music; The life of Rufus Thomas; The life of Joe Tex; The Life of Sly Stone; The Life of Rick James; The Life of Chaka Khan; The Life of Prince; The Life of Morris Day & The life of Jerome. Therlee Gipson  
**The History of Funk Music** Twenty-First Century Books™

An exploration of the life and legacy of Prince discusses his vibrant and prolific output, the paradigm-shifting ideas in his music, and his wide-ranging impact on modern culture. 505 0 \$a Foreword / by Questlove -- Introduction: the end -- Man, music. Life can be so nice: his life and its beginnings ; Baby I'm a star: his music and its beginnings ; Brand new groove: his music and its properties ; Musicology: his music and its imitators -- Meaning. Girls and boys: sex in his music ; Walk by the mirror: self in his music ; What time is it?: others in his music ; I wish u heaven: virtue and sin in his music ; America: race and politics in his music -- Methods, madness. What's my name: why he changed his name, and what that wrought ; MPLS: how his hometown made him and how he, in turn, made it ; Call the law: how he grew frustrated with fans and the internet ; It's gonna be a beautiful night: when he was onstage ; The work: how he produced so much for so long -- Memory. Such a shame our friendship had to end -- Appendix: Let's work: annotated discography and song index.

**Strange Stars** Simon and Schuster

Finally, the definitive guide for fans of

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funk--inside details and expert insights on the music of James Brown, Sly and the Family Stone, George Clinton's Parliament Funkadelic, Kool and the Gang, and more. Colorful, intelligent and in-your-face, Rickey Vincent's Funk celebrates the songs, the musicians, the philosophy and the meaning of The Funk. 16 pp b&w photos.