A Window Of Opportunity: A Convergence Of Styles, Performers And Producers At Sigma Sound Studios

ARSC Conference 2012 – Rochester, NY

Toby Seay
Assistant Professor - Music Industry Program
Director - Drexel University Audio Archives
“Windows of Opportunity”
Styles of Philadelphia

- Doo-Wop
- Funk
- Gospel
- R&B
- Soul
- Disco

Photo Courtesy of Joe Tarsia
Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes

Recording Date: 1972-06-30
Producer: Gamble, Huff
Label: Philadelphia International
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes

If You Don’t Know Me By Now

Recording Date: 1972-06-30
Producer: Gamble, Huff
Label: Philadelphia International
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
The Four Larks

Recording Date: 1969-08-06
Producer: Weldon McDougal
Label: Unreleased
Format: ¼” Full-track Mono
The Four Larks

*Its Unbelievable*

Recording Date: 1969-08-06
Producer: Weldon McDougal
Label: Unreleased
Format: ¼” Full-track Mono
Nat Turner Rebellion

Recording Date: 1969-11-11
Producer: Stan Watson

Label: Philly Groove
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
Nat Turner Rebellion

Tribute To A Slave

Recording Date: 1969-11-11
Producer: Stan Watson
Label: Philly Groove
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
**Sweet Inspirations**

**Recording Date:** 1969-11-18  
**Producer:** Gamble, Huff  
**Label:** Atlantic  
**Format:** ¼” Half-track Stereo

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**Sigma Sound Studios**

215 North 13th Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19107  
(215) 569-3660

**REEL NO. 1 MONO**  
**FILE NO. MC-74**  
**MIXER**  
**DATE:** 11/15/69 MONO

**ARTIST:** SWEET INSPIRATIONS  
**PRODUCER:** G/H  
**CLIENT:** MONI  
**Tape Type:** MONO

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[Image of reel and studio notes]
Sweet Inspirations

Two Can Play The Game

Recording Date: 1969-11-18
Producer: Gamble, Huff
Label: Atlantic
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
Recording Date: 1969-12-08
Producer: John Madara
Label: Wand
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
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Holly Maxwell

Recording Date: 1969-12-18
Producer: Baker, Harris, Young
Label: Smit-Whit Records
Format: 1” Eight-Track
Holly Maxwell

Never Going To Love Again

Recording Date: 1969-12-18
Producer: Baker, Harris, Young
Label: Smit-Whit Records
Format: 1” Eight-Track
Brothers Two

Recording Date: 1970-01-06
Producer: Ross Newman
Label: White Whale
Format: 1” Eight-Track
Brothers Two

My Sweetness

Recording Date: 1970-01-06
Producer: Ross Newman
Label: White Whale
Format: 1” Eight-Track
The Moods

Recording Date: 1970-09-27
Producer: Tom Sellers
Label: Scepter
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
The Moods

King Hustler

Recording Date: 1970-09-27
Producer: Tom Sellers

Label: Scepter
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
Len Barry

Recording Date: 1971-03-08
Producer: Thom Bell
Label: Vanguard
Format: 2” Sixteen-Track
Len Barry

Girl You’re Too Young

Recording Date: 1971-03-08
Producer: Thom Bell
Label: Vanguard
Format: 2” Sixteen-Track
The Geminiles

Recording Date: 1971-04-09
Producer: Norman Harris
Label: Sandbag Records
Format: 2” Sixteen-Track
The Geminiles

Don’t Fight The Feeling

Recording Date: 1971-04-09
Producer: Norman Harris
Label: Sandbag Records
Format: 2” Sixteen-Track
### Stylistics

- **Recording Date:** 1971-04-20
- **Producer:** Thom Bell
- **Label:** Avco Embassy
- **Format:** ¼” Half-track Stereo
Stylistics

Stop, Look, Listen (To Your Heart)

Recording Date: 1971-04-20
Producer: Thom Bell

Label: Avco Embassy
Format: ¼” Half-track Stereo
Discography