

Honouring Clement 'Sir Coxone' Dodd

The family of the late music pioneer Clement 'Sir Coxone' Dodd, Dodd invites all to commemorate the fourth anniversary of the life of Clement 'Coxone' Dodd, dubbed the 'Father of the Jamaican Music Industry', in Kingston on Sunday May 4.

This is part of the process of laying of the groundwork for a major project which will unfold on January 26, 2009 at a birthday celebration for Dodd. On that day, a commissioned bust of Dodd, will be unveiled at the launch of the Studio One Museum in Kingston.

Through his lifetime Dodd witnessed the transmission of Jamaican musical culture to the four corners of the globe with little direct benefit to the Jamaican people as creators and inspirers. However, the ultimate emergence of the Jamaica Recording and Publishing Company has presented the opportunity to re-invent and preserve the wheel of creative expressions.

A pioneer in the business, he opened his studio at Brentford Road in 1963 and from that point the name, Studio One, became associated with the best of early Jamaican pop rhythms - ska, rocksteady and reggae. One of his greatest claims to fame is that he was responsible for turning the spotlight on Bob Marley and the Wailers. He produced several of their most outstanding hits, including the international peace anthem, One Love.

The Dodd Family is embarking on what is currently known as a 360 Degrees Project of his work that will be built on the storytelling of this legendary tale of creative expression. It will be layered into the current music industry mode of digital infrastructure and delivery and expressed through publishing, merchandising, films and events.

Through this historical maze, the unfolding of the music catalogue will take place that will re-align its original purpose and intellectual property rights in a manner befitting the role that this body of work has played and continues to play for the Jamaican people and culture. This will be done in partnership with various local and international firms with the one caveat being that the expression and the will of the Jamaican people, that this is their 'Island In The Sun' will be upheld.

From the four corners of the globe the interest in the preservation, protection and promotion of his life's work has been of the highest order, knowing the seminal role that it has and will continue to play for generations to come. Dodd died in 2004, four days after the City of Kingston honoured him by naming a street for his famous Studio One recording label.

Source: Studio One Foundation