
Ska to be celebrated this Emancipation, Independence season

As the Emancipation and Independence celebrations continue, the Jamaica Cultural Development Commission will pay tribute to the revered genre ska on Saturday, August 2, with the Heart of Ska festival.

The Heart of Ska festival will be held at Ranny Williams Entertainment Centre, starting at 12 noon, with the daytime programme free of cost. The Main show, which will be held at 8pm, will focus on "Ska Rebirth," will be led by master drummer Sparrow Martin and will include Skatalite, Eric Monty Morris- original lead singer of the Skatalites - Derrick Morgan, Stranah Cole and Bunny & Skully.

There will be a special guest performance by American Jazz Trombonist Delfeayo Marsalis. The festival will feature film presentations, exhibitions showcasing photos and artifacts of The Skatalites and The Ska Era, panel discussions, interactive competitions, all day entertainment and the best 'Duppy' Bands from across the island.

Origins

The ska genre originated in the 1950s with a mixture of jazz, rhythm and blues, and other styles, and was popularized by the late Don Drummond and the Skatalites. [rjnnews online](#)