In His Steps- Michael Jackson Tribute

Maya J. Pope-Chappell
IN HIS STEPS

He was the muse of entertainers and revolutionized celebrity charity involvement. Maya Pope-Chappell samples his industry footprint.

“When you talk about his influence, you’re talking about the entire history of pop music since 1969.”

— JASON KING, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF THE CLIVE DAVIS DEPARTMENT OF RECORDED MUSIC AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

PERFORMANCES

Jermaine Stewart: Arista Records hoped to profit from Stewart’s similar vocal style on “We Don’t Have to Take Our Clothes Off.”

Bobby Brown: When he embarked on a solo journey, Brown famously borrowed Jackson’s high-energy dance moves.

Tevin Campbell: Discovered by Jackson’s mentor Quincy Jones, Campbell possessed a falsetto reminiscent of a young Michael.

Ne-Yo: He confesses to studying the blueprint of Off the Wall for his sophomore album. It showed in his video for “Because of You,” in which he dons a black fedora and rhinestone blazer.

CELEB CAUSES

Stop the Violence: In the tradition of “We Are the World,” this anti-violence campaign birthed the 1989 rap classic “Self Destruction,” with KRS-One, Public Enemy and MC Lyte splitting verses.

Urban Aid: A benefit concert in 1985 brought together the hip-hop and R&B community in support of LIFEbeat, a music-industry AIDS charity.

ONE: Co-founded by Bono in 2002, it rallies people to fight poverty, particularly in Africa. Stars such as Cameron Diaz, P. Diddy and Jennifer Aniston have joined the cause.

Stand Up to Cancer: The program received a celebrity boost when artists, including Beyoncé, Marian Carey and Carrie Underwood, recorded a charity song called “Just Stand Up” last year.