



CARLOS JONES has been entertaining audiences for over 20 years throughout the eastern half of the United States, first as a member of the roots reggae group "I-Tal," and then with legendary "First Light." The reggae influence was evident in much of the group's music, but over time they developed a sound unique to themselves. As one of the primary songwriters, Carlos has written and performed over 100 songs with the group, and released 1 vinyl album, 2 cassettes and 2 CDs that sold in excess of 50,000 units on the group's own label - "Thin Ice Records."

Feeling a need to get back to his musical roots, Carlos has recently embarked on a solo career and has formed a new group called the "Peace-Love-Unity-Syndicate," (a.k.a. the PLUS Band). Focusing on the need to create positive vibrations through his music, Carlos' message of peace, love and unity is one that stirs feelings in audiences of all ages and races. Blending traditional percussion instruments with electronic keyboards and sequencers presents a unique take on Carlos' hybrid style.

Of course, tying it all together is his warm, sensual voice with a sound that emanates directly from the soul. When you hear the voice, you know that this is a man who loves what he is doing!



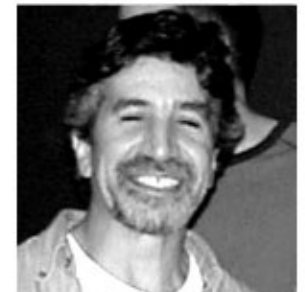
WILL DOUGLAS has played in two of the most popular Cleveland bands in the last ten years; The Janglers and Oroboros, honing his chops on music influenced by bands like the Grateful Dead and Allman Brothers. All the while he was harboring a deep desire to find out what was behind the "one drop;" the basic rhythm that drives reggae. What a perfect fit for the PLUS Band! When Will left Oroboros and joined PLUS, things really began to take shape. Considered a master of World Beat rhythms, he adds a very solid, precise yet dynamic foundation to the group's myriad of percussion instruments and sounds, providing an anchor that keeps the ship steady!

The most recent addition to the PLUS Band, **ISRAEL** has solidified the bottom end with his hearty bass chops. Although he did not appear on the Tri-C video, he has come on strong to top off the band's sound, and also contributes by playing timbales on certain songs as well. Adding a striking presence on stage even though Israel's usually tucked away in the corner, you'll be hearing more from this up and coming bass player in the near future!



Keyboard wizard extraordinaire, **PETER PLATTEN**, known in the group's circle as "Jah Scientist," provides the "color" to the group's sound by often playing multiple keyboard parts simultaneously. He can provide subtle atmospheric textures that float in and out of the groove, or deliver hard, funky licks that cut right to the bone. Hear that horn section? That's "the Scientist" at work! But wait a minute, the clavinet is playing too! How many hands does he have? Classically trained and jazz oriented, Peter adds a depth that pulls the listener inside the music.

Sometimes affectionately referred to as "the Rock" because of his steady and timeless qualities, **BOB CARUSO** has been there from day one; first with I-Tal from the late 70's, then with First Light. He and Carlos have been jamming together for twenty years, and it shows. Bob knows exactly where to be, and where not to. His mixture of Latin and African styles of drumming and percussion is the underlying current that pulls you along. You have to look closely to find Bob on stage- he usually stays out of the spotlight. But close your eyes and listen to the rhythms swirling around the core of the song, and you'll hear Bob's contributions!



DAN SCHRAMO joined up with the PLUS Band in the Fall of 2000 and has been making his presence felt with multiple sounds that he coaxes from his guitar. He lays back and finds just the right spot in each song to add his contributions, and also adds a third voice in the vocal harmonies. Dan provides just enough of an edge to Carlos' songs without being overbearing or getting in the way of the lyrical message. He has definitely helped to forge the unique PLUS Band sound!