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ZAPP Band Brings Hit-Packed High-Energy Show To Kansas City

(KANSAS CITY, MO) (Jan 24, 2014) – Featuring original members, The ZAPP BAND brings its unique Funk and Soul sound to Kansas City Saturday, March 8 at the historic Gem Theater—1615 E 18th St.

ZAPP's stage show brings an array of effects including rolling keyboards and lit costumes—plus Zapp's own special dance moves. Fans can expect to hear chart-topping hits like "Dance Floor", "More Bounce to the Ounce", "Computer Love", "California Love" and more.

"ZAPP's stage show is incredible," said Live Entertainment's Lionel Wilson. "Having them play at the Gem Theater gives Kansas City a great opportunity to experience this band's energy." The Gem's doors open at 6PM. Show starts at 7PM. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster locations, ticketmaster.com and (816) 474-6262. Tickets start at \$45.



About The ZAPP BAND

Zapp (also known as the Zapp Band or Zapp and Roger) is a soul and funk band formed in 1978 by brothers Roger Troutman, Larry Troutman, Lester Troutman, Terry Troutman, Bobby Glover and Gregory Jackson. Known for hits such as "More Bounce to the Ounce", "Dance Floor" and "Computer Love", the group was a partial source of inspiration to West Coast hip-hop and G-funk, which came out of the hand-clapped drum beat styled funk of Zapp's records. Roger's use of the talk box became another reason for the group's impact and its success.

The nucleus of Zapp circled around three of the five Troutman brothers: Lester, Larry and their younger brother Roger. The duo of Lester and Roger started several groups including Little Roger and the Vels. Larry eventually joined his brothers when their name became Roger and the Human Body, which also included youngest brother Terry. Larry was then the road manager and the leader of the group in terms of all major decisions and connections.

The name change to Zapp came courtesy of Terry, whose nickname was that of "Zapp". Discovered by members of P-Funk in 1979, the funk collective's leader George Clinton signed them to his Uncle Jam Records. When that label folded the following year, the group signed with P-Funk's parent label, Warner Bros. Records, and began working on their first record at united sound in Detroit album courtesy of co-production from Bootsy Collins.

Released in the late summer of 1980, Zapp's seminal self-titled debut album became a platinum success peaking at the top twenty of the Billboard Top 200 thanks to the success of their leading single, "More Bounce to the Ounce", which reached number two on the Hot Soul Singles chart.

Zapp's trek to fame continued within the Troutmans, who started Troutman Enterprises shortly after the *Zapp* album was released. Roger, who was the leader of the group, became famous for using the talk box in his recordings. He was also the band's producer. Within five years, the band scored more top ten R&B hits such as "Doo Wa Ditty", "I Can Make You Dance", "Heartbreaker", and ballads such as "Computer Love" and a cover of The Miracles' "Ooo Baby Baby". "Dance Floor, Part 1" - managed to hit number-one on the R&B chart. By 1985's new *Zapp IV*, the group had scored over four gold records and had become a top concert draw all around the world.

Following the tragic deaths of Roger and Larry Troutman in 1999, the band took a break. A few years later, Zapp resurfaced after the establishment of its own independent label, Zapp Town Records. The label released *Zapp VI: Back By Popular Demand* in 2003. Zapp returned to performing live concerts, touring across the U.S – much to the delight of their fans.

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