

June 9, 2013

Mr. Ligon,

Hello! It's a pleasure to hear from you! I apologize for my voice mail being full (a friend's children left a few cute messages for me, and I didn't have the heart to erase them).

I did not mean to mislead you with my message. The "Hey Love" image did NOT appear in TIME magazine. Rather, I was referring to a Time-Life-reissued version of the music collection. My understanding is that Time-Life/BMG obtained the rights to -- and reissued -- the "Hey Love" two-CD set back in 2001. I obtained this reissue of the collection several years later when I learned that it was once again available. I am a HUGE, HUGE fan of classic/Philly-tinged/orchestral soul from the late 1960s and 1970s (particularly the Thom Bell-produced title track from the Delfonics), and I would thrill to the classic "Hey Love" commercial whenever it would appear on late-night TV in the late 1980s. (And, of course, there is the nod to "Hey Love" in the John Cusack film "Say Anything.") For years, your indelible late-night lamplight image has flashed into my mind whenever I think of the "Hey Love" collection. I finally decided to see whether I could find out more information on the image -- and whether the photographer was still active. To my great surprise, you most certainly are!

I would think that fans of the "Hey Love" photo would take great interest in any anecdotes you have regarding that image and its use in what may well be the most popular collection of classic soul hits in modern history. Might you consider sharing those anecdotes on your website, along with the image itself?

Have you ever sold copies of the image to private collectors? I confess to having overextended myself in the past nine to 12 months with a few photo acquisitions, but if the image were available commercially from you (I can only imagine the thrill of a signed copy!), I would strongly consider such a purchase at some point in the future.

I am honored that you took the time to reach out to me. Thank you for contributing such an indelible image to the collective pop culture consciousness! A generation of soul music aficionados is deeply grateful.

Sincerely,

Jeff