

Biography



An avid music enthusiast and phenomenally skilled drummer from Washington, DC, William "Speedy" Truss, Jr. is an explosion of talent showcasing his musical prowess in gospel, jazz, blues, R&B, reggae, fusion, Motown, Amharic, country and big band genres. His professional career began at the tender age of 15, when he was given the rare opportunity to open for *Kirk Franklin*, playing one song with the gospel icon at Constitution Hall. Since then he has amassed a remarkable body of work including collaborating with a plethora of artists and recording on numerous projects.

Speedy began playing drums at 2 years-old without formal lessons or teachings. As he grew, so did his passion and dedication to becoming a drummer. He showed a major interest in anything having to do with music and made certain he was a part of it. When he reached high school, he learned how to read music and became the band section leader for the concert/marching band for three years.

Always wanting to learn more to perfect his craft, he learned to read music and eventually began teaching drum lessons. To add to his love of music, as well as expanding his musical mind, he's currently taking piano performance fundamentals and theory application.

As a professional drummer and music director, Speedy has worked nationally and internationally with artists from Kirk Franklin to Kenny Lattimore at events ranging from the Capital Jazz Fest, National Association of Music Manufacturers (NAMM), Bobby Jones Gospel, Gospel Music Workshop of America (GMWA), Wolf Trap, Black Caucus Convention and The Smooth Jazz SuperCruise to name a few.

Speedy currently plays with [Regina Belle](#), [Phaze II Jazz Band](#), [Patrick Lundy & The Ministers of Music](#) and [Upton Blues Band](#). He also continues to play with *El DeBarge*, *Frank McComb*, *Conya Doss*, *Marcus Johnson*, and *Secret Society*.

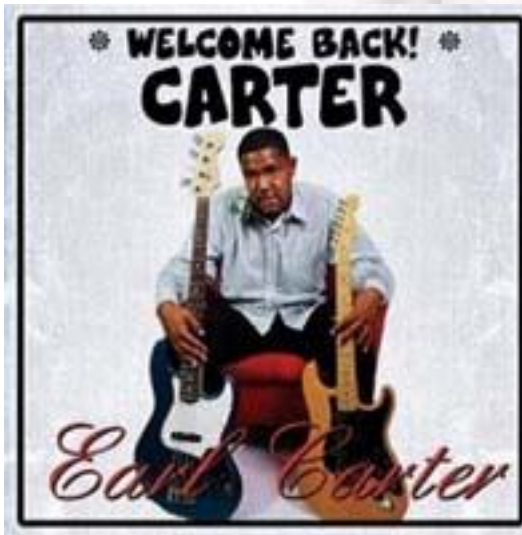
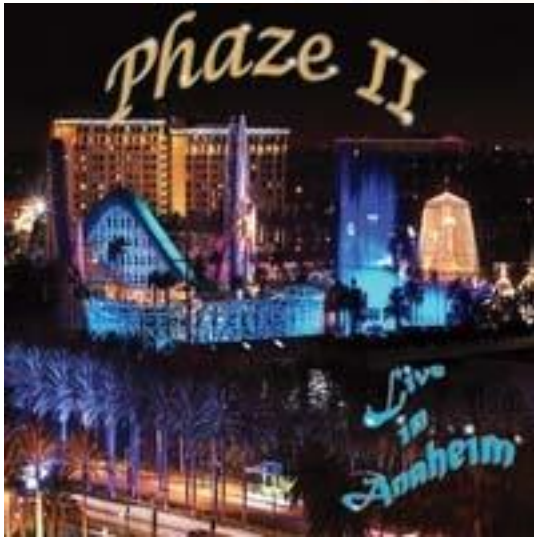
In addition to being a highly sought after musician, Speedy gives of his time as a drum instructor and mentor to the youth at the [Boys and Girls Club of America](#) in two locations in Washington, D.C.

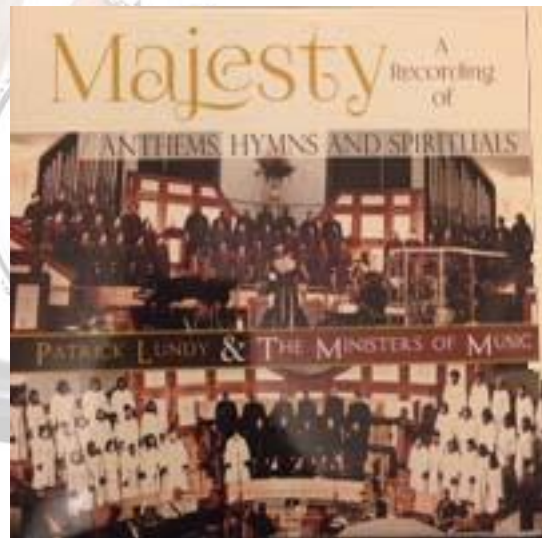
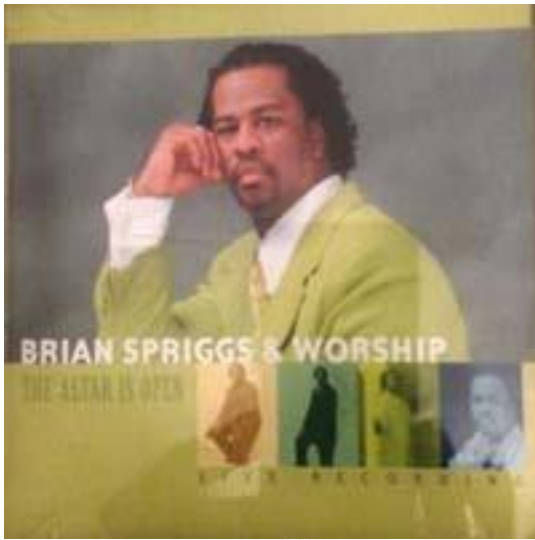
In April 2016, Speedy became a member of the [Grammy Award Recording Academy](#), Washington, D.C. Chapter, the premier outlet for honoring achievements in the recording arts and supporting the music community. The GRAMMYS are the only peer-presented award to honor artistic achievement, technical proficiency and overall excellence in the recording industry, without regard to album sales or chart position. As they move ahead in an ever-changing music environment, The Recording Academy looks forward to the new opportunities of a growing organization. Over the last decade in particular, The Academy has expanded its goals from the important work of recognizing the best in music through the GRAMMY Awards to establishing itself as the preeminent arts advocacy and outreach organization in the country. The Academy's goals are simple, but represent the heart and soul of the organization's efforts: to positively impact the lives of musicians, industry members and our society at large.

Speedy is influenced by Jay Williams, Dave Weckl, Paul "Buggy" Edwards, Vinnie Colaiuta, Rischard Jenkins, Dennis Chambers, Lil John Roberts, Will Kennedy, Chris Dave, Aaron Spears and PJ Morgan, just to name a few.

His favorite scripture is taken from Proverbs 16:3, "Commit to the LORD all you do and your plans WILL succeed." Speedy lives by the credos: "Prior Preparation Prevents Poor Performance" (James Baker) and "There is Beauty in Simplicity."

Discography





Artists



- El DeBarge
- Regina Belle
- Meli'sa Morgan
- Jeff Lorber
- Paul Taylor
- Frank McComb
- Kenny Lattimore
- CeCe Peniston
- Marcus Johnson
- Everette Harp
- Jackiem Joyner
- Cindy Bradley
- Al Turner
- Gary Bias
- Stephen Hurd
- Beverly Crawford
- Twinkie Clark
- Karen Clark Sheard
- Dorinda Clark Cole
- (The late) Donald Vails
- Marvin Sapp
- Byron Cage
- Kirk Franklin
- Murette Brown Clark
- Skip Pruitt
- Rodney Hampton
- Kurt Carr
- Tramaine & Walter Hawkins
- Kim Burrell
- Albertina Walker
- Dorothy Norwood
- Yolanda Adams
- Richard Smallwood
- Patrick Lundy & The Ministers of Music
- Joe Coleman
- Tracy Hamlin
- Dee Lucas
- Charis Jones
- Pink PaLiSh
- Phaze II
- Sound Connection
- Secret Society
- Conya Doss



Venues

- White House
- Howard Theatre
- Constitution Hall
- The Fillmore
- Blues Alley
- Bethesda Blues and Jazz Supper Club
- B.B. King Blues & Grill
- Convention Center
- Rams Head (Baltimore, Annapolis and Arundel Mills)
- Channel 9 news
- Fox 45 Baltimore (WBFF),
- 89.3 FM (WPFW)
- Kennedy Center
- The Strathmore
- Lincoln Theatre
- Warner Theatre
- Bohemian Caverns
- Wolf Trap
- Merriweather Post Pavilion
- NYCB Theatre at Westbury
- Chene Park in Detroit
- Teatro Monte Casino in Johannesburg, South Africa
- Grand Arena Grandwest in Capetown, South Africa