



News Release

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POPULAR EXHIBIT, REFLECTIONS: THE MARY WILSON SUPREME LEGACY COLLECTION, GETS EXTENDED RUN AT THE DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

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Was supposed to close Sunday, February 12th - now open an additional seven weeks through Sunday, April 2nd

DETROIT -- More than 40 years after the Supremes first topped the record charts on their way to worldwide fame, some of the distinctive gowns that became nearly as famous will remain on display an additional seven weeks right here in Motown at the Detroit Historical Museum, in partnership with original Supreme Mary Wilson.

Reflections: The Mary Wilson Supreme Legacy Collection, an exhibit featuring more than 50 Supremes costumes and rare memorabilia, continues now through Sunday, April 2nd, 2006. The exhibition was created by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio.

In addition to their distinctive "girl group" sound with a Motown flair, the Supremes, inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1988, were known for their glamorous and sophisticated style with costumes that were a visual delight covered in chiffon, sequins, beads, fringe, rhinestones and feathers. The collection includes the first gown purchased by Wilson, Diana Ross and Florence Ballard when they were still known as the Primettes; a set of black velvet Bob Mackie gowns worn on the GIT on Broadway television special in 1969; outfits worn on the Supremes' television specials and featured on album covers; and those from their 1977 Farewell Performance. One set of dresses includes a loose-fitting maternity outfit worn by Wilson while she was pregnant.

"This Motown homecoming truly captures a magical era in both the history of popular music and Detroit alike," said Dennis Zembala, director of the Detroit Historical Museums. "This Detroit-born trio rose from humble beginnings and overcame great odds to become Motown's premier hit makers and the most popular female group of the 1960s. We're thrilled to share this unique, historical collection with our visitors."

The Supremes rose from the poverty of Detroit's Brewster housing project to become America's ingenues, exuding a stylish charm and soulfulness that appealed across the board to black and white listeners at a time when racial divides were coming down.

The group amassed a dozen Number One hits between 1964 and 1969, including five consecutive chart toppers. "Where Did Our Love Go" began that streak in August 1964 and was followed by "Baby Love," "Come See About Me," "Stop! In the Name of Love" and "Back in My Arms Again." The milestone is all the more impressive because it occurred at the height of the British Invasion.

Bank One is presenting sponsor for the Reflections: The Mary Wilson Supreme Legacy Collection exhibit. Supporting sponsors are Standard Federal Bank, Handleman Company and Big Boy Restaurants. Media sponsors include Oldies 104.3 WOMC, the Michigan Chronicle and the Michigan Front Page. DTE Energy Foundation is the exhibit's Community and Educational Programs Sponsor. The Fashion Group International Detroit is a Community Partner for the exhibit.

The Detroit Historical Museum, located at 5401 Woodward Ave. (corner of Kirby) in Detroit's Cultural Center area, is open Wednesday through Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m., Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday from Noon to 5 p.m. Admission is \$5.00 for adults, \$3 for seniors and children 5-18, and free for children 4 and under. Permanent exhibits include the famous Streets of Old Detroit, Frontiers to Factories, The Motor City, and The Glancy Trains. For more information, call the Museum at (313) 833-1805 or check out our website at www.detroithistorical.org.