

ONE MORE TIME
REVEREND
ERNIE COX



REVEREND ERNIE COX “ONE MORE TIME”

- an inspiring combination of **blues & gospel**
- a full, rich sound, recorded in Montreal
- long-awaited studio release from Ottawa’s well-known minister/musician
- compared to **Ray Charles, Dr. John, Charles Brown**

WHERE HE’S FROM

The Early Years

Ernie started out playing in bars and coffee houses—part of Sneezzy Waters’ band in the early 1970s, and ready to start a career devoted to music. But his story doesn’t play out on the Ottawa scene, the young piano player struggling alongside every other musician in town, trying make a name for himself.

Instead, his talent grew in the same place so many gospel greats started out: the church. As music director at Ottawa’s Parkdale United, he came to learn how music can inspire—and while there, he found himself being called down a different path, one towards the ministry.

In the 1980s, he and his family settled outside of Ottawa, to take a church in the small town of Winchester, where his reputation as a great preacher and performer began to build.

WHAT HE’S DONE

Ernie’s Long Career

After a few years, he returned to Parkdale as *Minister of Music*. By the time he accepted an offer to lead his own church in Ottawa—Fourth Avenue Baptist—his accessible preaching and musical reputation were widely known.

Under his leadership, Fourth Avenue grew into the open, accepting church it is today, with an inclusive message that kept music front and center. In those days you could wander in, right off Bank Street—maybe expecting an old-fashioned hymn sing or quiet service—and stumble onto a rousing, unforgettable gospel concert.

Ernie played one-off shows through the years: opening for *Ray Bonneville* at the NAC, playing organ (and performing) with the *Montreal Jubilation Gospel Choir*, at *Irene’s Pub*, and at the *Tulip* and *Perth Summer Festivals*.

ABOUT THE ALBUM

His New Release

Just a few years ago, Ernie retired from the ministry, deciding to make his music accessible to everyone—to perform beyond just Sunday morning and those occasional shows. And that’s why he’s recorded an album of blues and gospel numbers, resting comfortably alongside each other. It’s not much of a stretch, really—despite the hardship and heartache, these blues songs often strike a note of hope, just like the gospel numbers speak of a **higher** hope.

But for Ernie, gospel music isn’t really *gospel* unless it looks to a better, fuller, more meaningful life, today—and that’s the same inclusive, second-chance message he’s always preached. His title says it all: retired from the ministry, and releasing his first major album at age 61—there’s always *one more time*.

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