

NOW WE'RE TALKIN'



By Helen Marketti

A CHAT WITH EDDIE MONEY

Coming to House of Blues March 28



Eddie Money is a staple in the music world. His songs are timeless and recognizable to each generation. *Two Tickets to Paradise*, *Baby Hold On*, *Walk on Water*, *I'll Get By*, *Shakin'* and *Take Me Home* are only a few of the many hits in Eddie's music catalog. He will be performing at the House of Blues in Cleveland on Friday, March 28. Eddie has a fond history of playing in Cleveland.

"I love playing in Cleveland and have many memories. Kid Leo (WMMS) was a good friend of mine. We used to hang out at Swingos; those were the days. Cleveland is a great place," said Eddie.

As with most musicians, Eddie had his idols and was influenced by different genres of music during his formative years. "My early influences were R and B music, James Brown, Otis Redding, Mitch Ryder and The Detroit Wheels and The Young Rascals. I remember attending the University of Berkeley when I performed for 'Sounds of the City', which was like amateur night in the San Francisco Bay area. That was around 1975 or '76. The legendary promoter, Bill Graham was involved with the event. Bill was a great guy, gave me chance, and got my career going. We actually received a record deal from a video tape recording when we did 'Sounds of the City'. I had already written *Two Tickets to Paradise* and *Baby Hold On*. I was looking for a record deal so it was perfect timing."

When talk shows were still establishing their footing of guests and entertainment, there were never many rock stars that played their music on the talk show circuit. Eddie seemed to be ahead of the pack in those days during the 70s. "I believe I was the first rock star to be on the Merv Griffin Show and be part of day time television. I have to say Merv Griffin helped me in the early stages of my career. He gave me my first big shot to be on television and get my career going further. I also did the Mike Douglas Show, he was a great guy too."

One of Eddie's current projects includes a beautiful, heartfelt song which is dedicated to our servicemen and women. "*One More Soldier Coming Home* is a new song I have written and all proceeds are going towards the Intrepid Fallen Heros Fund which is a nonprofit charitable organization which has two facilities. There is one located in San Antonio and the other is located in Maryland. The organization serves veterans returning home from Afghanistan that have had trauma injuries whether it's mental or physical."

Eddie has a rockin' band that has been with him for years. Tommy Girvin (lead guitar), Glenn Symmonds (drums), Lee Beverly (bass) and Chris Grove (keyboard). "These guys are great. They have been with me for years and we rock every show."

Eddie's passion for what he does is evident as he shares what keeps him going. It seems quite simple but when you are onstage many nights out of the year, you need to pay attention to the details. People who support you want to see a great rockin' show. "I'm doing what I love," said Eddie. "People will often share stories with me about when they first met their spouse that one of my songs was playing on the radio. I think it's great to hear those stories. I still love singing. I still play the saxophone, too. It's a motivator to keep my weight down, not to smoke cigarettes and not drink. If you do it right, I think rock and roll keeps you young. I meet fans who grew up with me and now they bring their kids to my shows. It amazes me how the young kids who are seven years old know the words to my songs. I think the internet has helped my career tremendously. You need to be sharp; keep your mind clear. You need to be on your game when you are doing shows because everything you do will be all over Youtube the next day." (laughs)

You won't want to miss Eddie's upcoming show. He will be singing the songs we know and love. What could be better than a personal invite from Eddie Money! "I've got two tickets to paradise but I'm taking everybody. I'll see you in Cleveland! It's going to be a great show. Come on down to the House of Blues and do some shakin' with the Money man."

For more information on Eddie Money: www.eddiemoney.com
For ticket information: www.houseofblues.com/cleveland

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