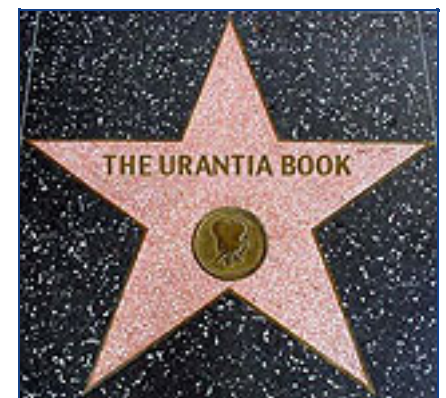


Star Power

Star Power is intended to provide visitors with an appreciation of the famous people who have become associated with *The Urantia Book* over the years. There is no suggestion by the inclusion of this information that *The Urantia Book* is any more credible on an objective level because of these associations. Nor is it suggested that all the people listed are or were "believers" in *The Urantia Book*. If people have had at some point or currently do have some degree of appreciation for *The Urantia Book*, then they qualify for being on this list.

Objective credibility is, of course, an impersonal, hard facts issue. Objective credibility is what the reports are all about. Star Power is included simply because we are people. Personal credibility matters to whatever degree we make it matter. Notwithstanding that Star Power is not substantive, is highly subjective and is, well, personal, it is nonetheless an issue that we humans tend to appreciate for whatever personal reasons we have for doing so. If you know of anyone that you think should be added to Star Power, please get in touch. [Email Halbert regarding entries for this list.](#)



Authors

Adventurers

Movies/Television

Musicians

Visual Artists

Pato Banton (born 1961)

"*The Urantia Book* has played a major role in my life by providing the answers to the many religious questions I had, but could not find an answer to in any other religious books:-) What I have learned from years of searching is this: "When you truly love the Creator of this Universe, you develop a strong urge to Serve. The greatest way for a human being to serve God, is through Loving Service to the Family of Humanity. There is no other way to achieve Peace On Earth."

Pato Banton's official websites:

<http://www.myspace.com/patobanton>

<http://www.patobanton.com/>

Pato has performed at numerous Urantia related events over the years, including international conferences held in 1999 in Vancouver, Canada and in 2008 in Los Angeles, California. He makes *The Urantia Book* available at his concerts along with UBtheNEWS pamphlets.





toaster from Birmingham, England. He began recording in 1982, appearing on "Pato and Roger a Go Talk" (from Special Beat Service) with Ranking Roger of The Beat. He was one of the guest artists that appeared on the UB40 album *Baggarriddim* in 1985. His solo debut was 1987's *Never Give In*, which included a collaboration with Paul Shaffer. After an EP in 1988, Banton released a more pop-oriented LP, *Visions of the World*, followed by 1990's *Wize Up! (No Compromise)*, which included a college radio hit in *Spirits in the Material World* (The Police cover)[used in the soundtrack for *Ace Ventura: When Nature Calls* and featuring Sting] and another collaboration, "Wize Up!", this time with David Hinds of Steel Pulse.

"Banton then worked on a live album and with Mad Professor, and then released 1992's *Universal Love*. After a 1994 British #1 hit in *Baby Come Back* (originally by Eddy Grant performing with The Equals), with Robin and Ali Campbell of UB40, a best-of album was released. 1996's *Stay Positive* was followed by *Life Is a Miracle* in 2000. *Life*

Is a Miracle received a Grammy nomination for Best Reggae Album in 2001. Recently, Banton has been playing with Mystic Roots, a reggae band formed in Chico, California."

See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pato_Banton

Jerry Garcia (1942-1995)

In *A Long Strange Trip: The Inside History of the Grateful Dead* (2002), author Dennis McNally asserts, when talking about Jerry Garcia, that *The Urantia Book* was "one of his favorite esoteric works."

Paul Krassner Interview by Sunny Sunndowner July 9, 2009:

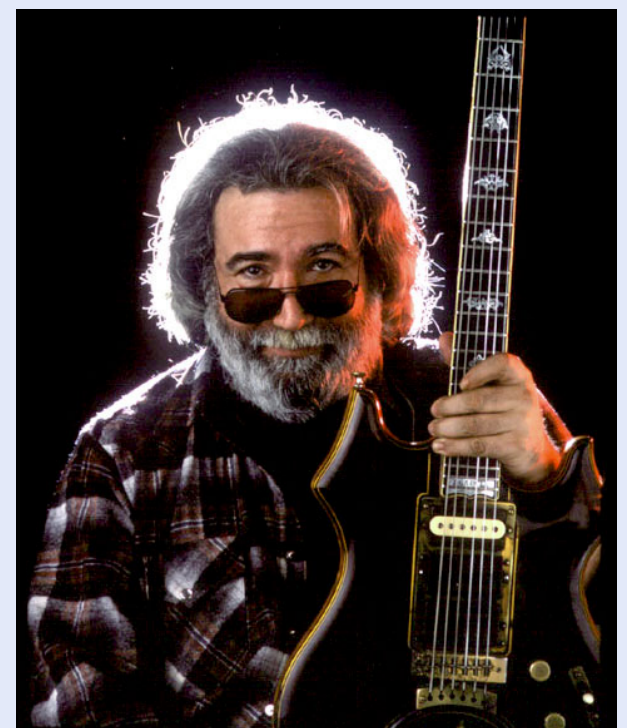
SS: And we might go so far as to say that, in addition to being a healing ceremony, it was a "spiritual experience." One interesting aside, though, came in an interview with Jerry later on, where he was asked what he thought about this one faction of "Deadheads" who considered him to be "God," and he responded that he would tolerate it until they came for him with the "nails and a cross." (Laughter) But you had an interesting bit of Jerry Garcia trivia about

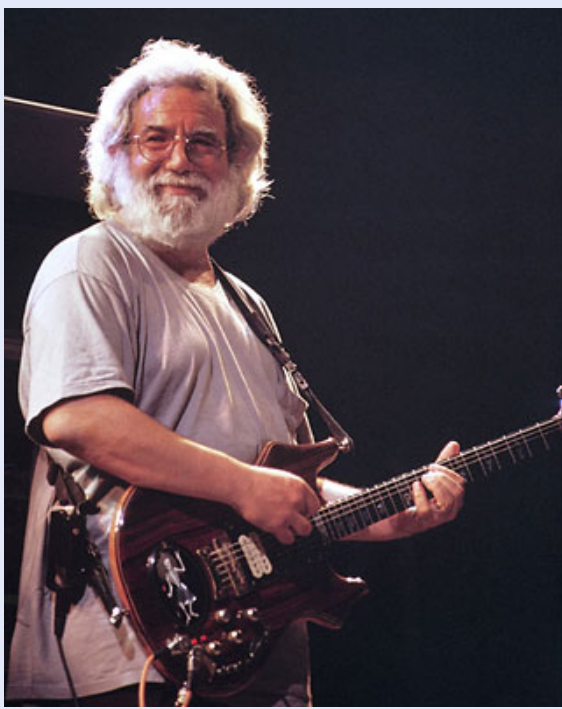
his "spirituality" involving "The Urantia Book"...

PK: Oh yeah- Garcia read the entire Urantia Book...

SS: And that's like over 4 inches thick!

PK: Yeah, and it's in small print. Back in the sixties, there was a legend that if you read the entire Urantia Bible, which is sort of "science-fiction" in its own way - a mix of science fiction and spirituality... but if you read the entire book, then 'three elderly women would come visit you.' But Jerry told me that he never got that visit... and he was very disappointed. (Laughter)





SS: Do you think he considered it a waste of time, then?
(Laughter)

PK: No, he had a "twinkle in his eye" about it- and he knew that it was the "journey" of reading it, rather than the "goal" of meeting "three elderly women."

See <http://desertvalleystar.com/article.php?a=396>

From Paul Krassner's book *Impolite Interviews*:

"There is a powerful continuity spanning three decades of Grateful Dead events, from a benefit for the Black Panthers where everybody got frisked to a concert where the entire audience was younger than the number of years the band had been together. Jerry Garcia remains as an icon representing the sense of community that has always accompanied the music of

the Dead. Their concerts have served as healing ceremonies, as extended family reunions, as celebrations of a shared value system, as Martian conventions. That 's the spirit of Garcia's legacy, and it will continue to transcend generations.

"Even though President Clinton occasionally wears one of Jerry Garcia's designer neckties, Garcia himself never wore a tie. But he did have a drawer filled entirely with black T-shirts along with a copy of the *Urantia Bible*. He once told me of a legend that anyone who read that book from cover to cover--which he had done--would receive a mysterious visit from three elderly women, although they never arrived at *his* door. He accepted his disappointment with grace."

From Wikipedia:

Jerome John "Jerry" Garcia (August 1, 1942 – August 9, 1995) was an American musician best known for his lead guitar work, singing and songwriting with the band the Grateful Dead. Though he vehemently disavowed the role, Garcia was viewed by many as the leader or "spokesman" of the group.

One of its founders, Garcia performed with the Grateful Dead for their entire three-decade career (1965–1995). Garcia also founded and participated in a variety of side projects, including the Saunders-Garcia Band (with longtime friend Merl Saunders), Jerry Garcia Band, Old and in the Way, the Garcia/Grisman acoustic duo, Legion of Mary, and the New Riders of the Purple Sage (which Garcia co-founded with John Dawson and David Nelson). He also released several solo albums, and contributed to a number of albums by other artists over the years as a session musician. He was well known by many for his distinctive guitar playing and was ranked 13th in Rolling Stone's "100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time" cover story.

See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jerry_Garcia



Jimi Hendrix (1942-1970)

From: *Room Full of Mirrors: A Biography of Jimi Hendrix* by Charles R. Cross, p. 307.

"Jimi reveled in the chance to talk about religion and mysticism in a setting he called a "cosmic candy store."

"It was a spiritual cleansing for Jimi," Chuck Wein observed. . . . Wein gave Jimi several books, including *The Tibetan Book of the Dead* and *Secret Places of the Lion: Alien Influences on Earth's Destiny*. Jimi also had with him *The Book of Urantia*, an alternative Bible for UFO believers that mixed tales of Jesus with stories of alien visitations. Jimi carried this book with him



everywhere-along with his Bob Dylan songbook-and told friends he had learned much from its pages."

The quote above lends some credibility to the material below, which at this time has not been otherwise corroborated through any commercial publication.

Jane, Seattle, WA: <http://www.songfacts.com/detail.php?id=2983>

"In the mid 70's, after Jim had died, his Pan Am flight bag was found in the lost baggage department. Inside was a battered copy of *"The Urantia Book"*. I believe this was a significant source of inspiration for Jimi and his beliefs about spirituality and the afterlife. The lyrics to Voodoo Chile say: "I'll meet you in the next world, and don't be late". Anyone else in that era would have said the next life, or next plane. But the concept of a "next world", that is, an ascension sphere prior to heaven, is a concept specific to *The Urantia Book*. This is just a little clue as to what Jimi thought and where he found inspiration. We'll all get to see him in the next world and I can't wait. (Jimi says he's a voodoo child, he's certainly not calling himself a pot of chile.)"



Jimi Hendrix at Woodstock

The following is an excerpt from the Wikipedia page about Hendrix: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jimi_hendrix
"Jimi Hendrix (November 27, 1942 - September 18, 1970) was an American guitarist, singer and songwriter. Hendrix is considered one of the greatest and most influential guitarists in rock music history. After initial success in England, he achieved worldwide fame following his 1967 performance at the Monterey Pop Festival. Later, Hendrix headlined the iconic 1969 Woodstock Festival.

"Jimi Hendrix helped pioneer the technique of guitar feedback with overdriven amplifiers, incorporating into his music what was previously an undesirable sound. He

built upon the innovations and influences of blues stylists such as B.B. King, Muddy Waters, Albert King, and T-Bone Walker, and derived style from rhythm and blues and soul guitarists Curtis Mayfield, Steve Cropper, and Cornell Dupree, as well as from traditional jazz. Part of Hendrix's flamboyant stage persona may have been inspired by rock pioneer Little Richard, with whom he toured as part of Richard's back-up band, "The Upsetters".

"Hendrix is also widely thought to be influenced by Pete Townshend of The Who, who performed in London when Hendrix started his career there in 1966. Carlos Santana has also suggested that Hendrix's music may have been influenced by his Native American heritage.

"Hendrix strove to combine what he called "earth", a blues, jazz, or funk-driven rhythm accompaniment, with "space", the high-pitched psychedelic sounds created by his guitar improvisations. As a record producer, Hendrix also broke new ground in using the recording studio as an extension of his musical ideas; he was one of the first to experiment with stereophonic and phasing effects during recording.

"Hendrix was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1992 and the UK Music Hall of Fame in 2005. His star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame (at 6627 Hollywood Blvd.) was dedicated in 1994. In 2006, his debut album, *Are You Experienced*, was inducted into the United States National Recording Preservation Board's National Recording Registry. *Rolling Stone* named Hendrix number 1 on their list of the 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time in 2003."



Kerry Livgren (Born September 18, 1949)

From: *How Do You Know He's Real?: Celebrity Reflections on True Life Experiences with God*

By Amy Hammond Hagberg

Kerry Livgren:

"My desire to find religious truth during this period was actually heightened by our success. The only thing I could really cling to was the tremendous emotional experience that resulted from creating music. In a real sense, music became my god. And knowing that my lyrics were having a profound effect on the lives of many people, I felt compelled to accelerate my search to find the truth. Many of our fans thought I was some kind of a prophet. I felt like a sham and hungered for more than ever to discover the true God. . . .

"In 1977, I discovered a book that convinced me I had reached the end of my quest. It was called the *Urantia Book*, a 2,097-page cultic volume that appeared to have all the answers I was looking for. *Urantia* is an ancient name for the planet Earth, and the *Urantia Book* believes that no one religion has all of the truth. The basic theme of this book is the proclamation that all men are indwelt by divinity and are involved in a very gradual process of achieving complete God-consciousness. I became convinced that the book could not have been written by men or human inspiration.



"Two years later, Kansas had become one of the most successful and respected rock bands in the country. I enjoyed a real sense of artistic fulfillment; my marriage was going well; I had achieved financial prosperity; and I thought I had discovered the real meaning of life as an Urantian."

From Wikipedia:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kansas_%28band%29

"The 1979 album *Monolith* featured lyrics influenced by *The Urantia Book* and Native American themes."

"Kansas is an American progressive rock band who became a popular arena rock group in the 1970s, with hit singles such as "Carry On Wayward Son" and "Dust in the Wind." Kansas has remained a classic rock radio

staple and a popular touring act in North America and Europe."

Jaco Pastorius (1951-1987)

From Wikipedia:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jaco_pastorius

"John Francis Anthony "Jaco" Pastorius III (December 1, 1951 - September 21, 1987) was a Finnish-American jazz musician and composer widely acknowledged for his virtuosity of the fretless bass, as well as his command of varied musical styles.

His playing style was noteworthy for containing "dazzling solos in the higher register" and "fluid machine-gun-like passages that demanded attention," often featuring his instrument in lead rather than rhythm section. His unique innovations also included

the use of harmonics and the "singing" quality of his melodies. In 2006, Pastorius was voted "The Greatest Bass Player Who Has Ever Lived" by reader submissions in Bass Guitar Magazine.

Apart from his career in the influential jazz fusion band Weather Report, he had two Grammy Award nominations for his self-titled debut album. He was inducted into Down Beat Jazz Hall of Fame in 1988, one of only four bassists to be so honored beside Charles Mingus, Milt Hinton, and Ray Brown and the only electric bassist to garner the distinction."

From: <http://www.bassplayer.com/article/jacos-finest-hour/sep-07/31331>

Bass Player, online edition September 2007

Jaco's Finest Hour: A Song Is Born

"Among Jaco's bass anthems, when it comes to the triple-threat combination of composition, bass line, and solo, none stands quite as tall as "Havona." Pastorius originally wrote the tune in late 1973, while under the spiritual influence of *The Urantia Book*. A chapter in the book describes "Havona" as the master galaxy (which contains Earth)-and as a perfect universe consisting of a billion spheres of unimagined beauty. A raw version featuring Herbie Hancock, Lenny White, and Don Alias was recorded for Jaco's 1976 landmark solo debut, but it was not included.

"The preeminent "Havona" version came a year later, for Weather Report's 1977 epic, *Heavy Weather*. Strikingly fresh and uninhibited, the track dances and soars on an ear-grabbing bass line, partnered with a sizzling drum groove. Meanwhile, angular changes provide fodder for the consensus baddest bass guitar solo ever put to tape. As drummer Alex Acuña told Joe Zawinul biographer Brian Glasser, "I think my favorite [*track on Heavy Weather*] is 'Havona.' That, for me, is how I always want to play, that kind of a conversation. When I hear that tune, I still get the chills. Everything was improvised in that moment-it's almost no overdubs." Perhaps Peter Erskine, who succeeded Acuña in Weather Report, sums it up best. "As the final track on *Heavy Weather*, it's one of those tunes on one of those albums that, when you've finished listening to it, you want to listen to the entire recording from the beginning all over again. It is a perfect track and is one of my all-time favorite Jaco performances. Oddly, it was one of the few tunes that the band did not rehearse or try to play live when I was in the group, but I'm grateful for its existence. 'Havona' is definitive Jaco: incredible rhythm, new and fresh harmony, virtuosity-flawless execution and intonation, including his Stravinsky quote!-and a sense that the song is coming from the past and the future at the same time."



Elvis Presley (1935-1937)

From: David W. Cloud, "1950s Rock -- Creating a Revolution", distributed by Way of Life Literature's Fundamental Baptist Information Service, copyright 2001 (<http://www.wayoflife.org/fbns/1950srock.htm>; viewed 19 July 2005)
Relevant passage:

Elvis did not believe the Bible in any traditional sense... Elvis constructed "a personalised religion out of what he'd read of Hinduism, Judaism, numerology, theosophy, mind control, positive thinking and Christianity" (Hungry for Heaven, p. 143). The night he died, he was reading the book *Sex and Psychic Energy* (Goldman, *Elvis: The Last 24 Hours*, p. 140). Elvis loved material by

guru Paramahansa Yogananda, the Hindu founder of the Self-Realization Fellowship... In considering a marriage to Ginger Alden (which never came to pass) prior to his death, Elvis wanted the ceremony to be held in a pyramid-shaped arena "in order to focus the spiritual energies upon him and Ginger" (Goldman, *Elvis: The Last 24 Hours*, p. 125). Elvis traveled with a portable bookcase containing over 200 volumes of his favorite books. The books most commonly associated with him were books promoting pagan religion, such as *The Prophet* by Kahilil Gibran; *Autobiography of a Yogi* by Yogananda; *The Mystical Christ* by Manley Palmer; *The Life and Teachings of the Master of the Far East* by Baird Spalding; *The Inner Life* by Leadbetter; *The First and Last Freedom* by Krishnamurti; *The Urantia Book*; *The Rosicrucian Cosmo-Conception*; *the Book of Numbers* by Cheiro; and *Esoteric Healing* by Alice Bailey. Elvis was a great fan of occultist Madame Blavatsky. He was so taken with Blavatsky's book *The Voice of Silence*, which contains the supposed translation of ancient occultic Tibetan incantations, that he "sometimes read from it onstage and was inspired by it to name his own gospel group, Voice" (Goldman, *Elvis*, p. 436). Another of Elvis's favorite books was *The Impersonal Life*, which supposedly contains words recorded directly from God by Joseph Benner. Biographer Albert Goldman says Elvis gave away hundreds of copies of this book over the last 13 years of his life.



http://www.adherents.com/people/pp/Elvis_Presley.html
<http://www.elvis.com/>

"Elvis Aaron Presley (January 8, 1935 – August 16, 1977) was one of the most popular American singers of the 20th century. A cultural icon, he is widely known by the single name Elvis. He is often referred to as the "King of Rock and Roll" or simply "the King".

...

"Presley is regarded as one of the most important figures of 20th-century popular culture. He had a versatile voice and unusually wide success encompassing many genres, including country, pop ballads, gospel, and blues. He is the best-selling solo artist in the history of popular music. Nominated for 14 competitive Grammys, he won three, and received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award at age 36. He has been inducted into four music halls of fame."
See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Elvis_Presley

Carlos Santana (1947-present)

On Tuesday November 15, 2011, [Carlos Santana](#) posted the following to his facebook page:

"Greetings, children of light & love! (A Flow of Consciousness by Carlos 11/15/11)

Greetings, children of light & love!
I find myself reading *The Urantia Book*,
Specifically: paper 134 section 6 -
LAW, LIBERTY, AND SOVEREIGNTY
And truly it resonates with my spirit
to attain tangible lasting world peace..."

To read paper 134 section 6 of *The Urantia Book*, [click here](#).



Santana played and recorded music occasionally with the Grateful Dead. Jerry Garcia, guitarist for the Grateful Dead, is also listed here on Star Power (above). As well, visual artist Robert Venosa, who did album cover art for Santana, is also listed on Star Power.



Carlos Augusto Alves Santana (born July 20, 1947) is a Mexican-American rock guitarist. Santana became famous in the late 1960s and early 1970s with his band, Santana, which pioneered rock, salsa and jazz fusion. The band's sound featured his melodic, blues-based guitar lines set against Latin and African rhythms featuring percussion instruments such as timbales and congas not generally heard in rock music. Santana continued to work in these forms over the following decades. He experienced a resurgence of popularity and critical acclaim in the late 1990s. In 2003, Rolling Stone magazine listed Santana at number 15 on their list of the 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time. He has won 10 Grammy Awards and 3 Latin Grammy Awards.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carlos_Santana

Karlheinz Stockhausen (1928-2007)

Karlheinz Stockhausen was a German composer. He is regarded as one of the important composers of the 20th century, referred to by one critic (Hewett 2007) as "one of the great visionaries of 20th-century music." He is famous for his ground-breaking work in electronic music and "controlled chance" in serial composition.

From his article *In Every Sense This Composer Was On A Different Wavelength*, Matthew Guerrieri writes (<http://www.slate.com/id/2180463/>):



"Stockhausen borrowed from *The Urantia Book* in his last completed major work, the seven-opera cycle *Licht*, which occupied him from 1977 until 2002 (and remains only five-sevenths performed). The book was one of a long line of spiritual systems-Catholicism, Sufism, the Integral Yoga of Sri Aurobindo-that Stockhausen embraced. But they were adjuncts to his true creed: Stockhausen was first and foremost a priest of sound, a clearinghouse for the coming and going of vibrations."

Sun Ra (1914-1993)

(From wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sun_Ra)

Sun Ra . was an innovative jazz composer, bandleader, piano and synthesizer player, poet and philosopher known for his "cosmic philosophy", musical compositions and performances.



He abandoned his birth name and took on the name and persona of Sun Ra (Ra being the ancient Egyptian god of the Sun). Claiming that he was of the "Angel Race" and not from Earth, but from Saturn, Sun Ra developed a complicated persona of "cosmic" philosophies and lyrical poetry that made him a pioneer of Afrofuturism as he preached "awareness" and peace above all.

He led The Arkestra (a deliberate mis-spelling of "orchestra"), an ensemble with an ever-changing lineup and name (it was also called "The Solar Myth Arkestra," the "Blue Universe Arkestra," "The Jet Set Omniverse Arkestra," and many other permutations; Sun Ra asserted that the ever-changing name of his ensemble reflected the ever-changing nature of his music.)

A prolific recording artist and frequent live performer, Sun Ra's music ranged from keyboard solos to big bands of 30-odd musicians; his music touched on virtually the entire history of jazz, from ragtime to swing music, from bebop to free jazz; he was also a pioneer of electronic music, space music[2] and free improvisation, and was one of the first musicians, regardless of genre, to make

extensive use of electronic keyboards.

In 1972, San Francisco public TV station KQED producer John Coney, producer Jim Newman, and screen writer Joshua Smith worked with Sun Ra to produce a 30 minute part fiction, part documentary film, entitled "Space is the Place", featuring Sun Ra's Arkestra and filmed in Golden Gate Park. It is said that in preparation of making this film, Sun Ra studied *The Urantia Book*.

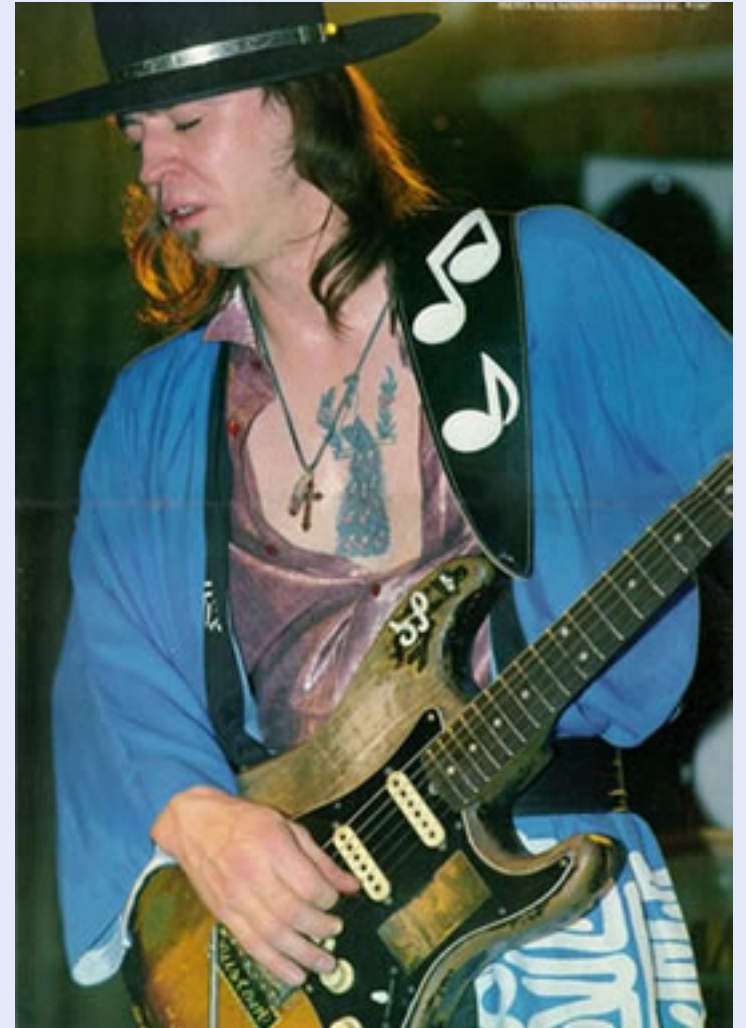
Stevie Ray Vaughan (1954-1990)

From: *Stevie Ray Vaughan: Caught In The Crossfire* by Joe Nick Patoski and Bill Crawford, p. 86.

“She eventually let him move in with her and her roommate, Mary Beth Greenwood, a budding photographer who was dating the jazz-rock guitarist Eric Johnson. In the afternoon, the three of them hung out in Zilker Park, went swimming at Barton Springs or Lake Travis, cruised the streets, talked about things spiritual and material. Stevie often brought along the book of Urantia and read Lindi passages from the strange publication that mixed science fiction and pop psychology.”

Ted Lanier, owner of Whole Life Books in Austin, TX, gives this first-hand experience:

“I first saw SRV in the late 70' early 80's, long before he became so popular, at a place called the Pearl Street Co-op. It was, and perhaps still is, a co-operative housing unit for University of Texas students. It probably housed less than fifty people and only about 10 people were in the audience for SRV. All I remember is “boy he sure could play fast.” “At the time, his older brother, Jimmy, was in a group called the Fabulous Thunderbirds and was more well known and popular.”



“Years later my wife and I co-founded a nonprofit spiritual and metaphysical bookstore called Whole Life Books. It just happened to be in the same shopping center as Heart of Texas Music where SRV and many other famous and locally famous musicians would come by from time to time.

“One morning in '86 or '87, SRV walked into the store. He looked like he just stepped out of the shower. He asked if we had *The Urantia Book*. I showed it to him and also the *Concordex To The Urantia Book*. We have comfortable chairs and he made himself at home. Since we have famous people in Austin all the time, myself and our staff all agree to just leave them basically alone but make ourselves available for help and questions, just as we would anyone else. He ended up buying *The Urantia Book*, the *Concordex*, a thesaurus, and a dictionary. He was really serious about getting into it. He came in the store from time to time up to the time of his death.”

From www.legacyrecordings.com/Stevie-Ray-Vaughan.aspx:

“With his astonishingly accomplished guitar playing,



Stevie Ray Vaughan ignited the blues revival of the '80s. Vaughan drew equally from bluesmen like Albert King, Otis Rush, and Muddy Waters and rock & roll players like Jimi Hendrix and Lonnie Mack, as well as the stray jazz guitarist like Kenny Burrell, developing a uniquely eclectic and fiery style that sounded like no other guitarist, regardless of genre. Vaughan bridged the gap between blues and rock like no other artist had since the late '60s. For the next seven years, Stevie Ray was the leading light in American blues, consistently selling out concerts while his albums regularly went gold. His tragic death in 1990 only emphasized his influence in blues and American rock & roll.”

From Wikipedia:

“In 2003, Rolling Stone magazine ranked Stevie Ray Vaughan #7 in their list of the 100 Greatest Guitarists of All Time, and Classic Rock Magazine ranked him #3 in their list of the 100 Wildest Guitar Heroes in 2007. He was the younger brother of Jimmie Vaughan [of the Fabulous Thunderbirds], born 1951.”



Grammy Awards:

- 1985 Best Traditional Blues Album for Blues Explosion (various artists)
- 1990 Best Contemporary Blues Album for In Step (Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble)
- 1991 Best Contemporary Blues Album for Family Style (Stevie Ray Vaughan and Jimmie Vaughan)
Best Rock Instrumental Performance for "D/FW" (Stevie Ray Vaughan and Jimmie Vaughan)
- 1993 Best Contemporary Blues Album for The Sky Is Crying (Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble)
Best Rock Instrumental Performance for "Little Wing" (Stevie Ray Vaughan and Double Trouble)

