

EMBARGOED UNTIL TUESDAY, JULY 23, 2025 AT 6:00 AM ET

Seed&Spark Campaign Launches to Fund Documentary To Preserve Motown Music's Legacy Of Love

"The Spirit Moves Through Motown" to Feature Funk Brothers' Jack Ashford

Detroit, MI – July 23, 2025 – The team behind *The Spirit Moves Through Motown* is excited to announce the launch of their Seed&Spark crowdfunding campaign. This will support the completion of this culturally significant documentary that's set to go live next year on the 55th anniversary of Marvin Gaye's renowned Motown album, "What's Going on" - The Funk Brothers' first number 1 album.

The film tells the untold story of Jack Ashford, the last surviving member of The Funk Brothers - Motown's legendary house band described as "the backbone of Motown" - and his extraordinary journey of faith, music, and legacy. With insights from music icon Stevie Wonder and rare archival footage, *The Spirit Moves Through Motown* explores how Ashford's deep spirituality shaped his life and the timeless sound that broke barriers and united communities across racial divides in an unprecedented manner.

"This film is about more than music, it's about how faith and creativity can change the world," said Monica Graves, award-winning director and producer of the film. "At a time of cultural and social unrest that's marked by division, Motown's ability to bridge racial and cultural divides and message of unity seems more relevant now than ever before."

Monica Graves is working alongside producers Michael Durio, Ernie Paris, and Nat Graves on this documentary to bring together decades of expertise in music and storytelling to preserve this vital, and, for the most part undocumented, chapter of American cultural history.

With the Seed&Spark campaign, the team needs to raise \$35,000 to complete pre-production. Supporters of the campaign will gain access to unique rewards, including exclusive behind-the-scenes content, digital downloads, and special recognition in the film's credits.

About the Seed&Spark Campaign

Launching today, the crowdfunding campaign will run for 30 days. Contributions will directly support filming, editing, and music licensing to bring this important story to life. To support the campaign, visit: <https://seedandspark.com/fund/the-spirit-moves-through-motown#story>

About Spiration Films

Spiration Films is a production company dedicated to telling authentic, impactful stories. Composed of Monica Graves, Michael Durio, Ernie Paris, and Nat Graves, the team brings decades of experience in music, film, and storytelling to shine a light on important human stories that resonate with audiences worldwide. Learn more at www.spirationfilms.com.

For more information, or to schedule an interview with the filmmakers, please contact:
Monica Graves / spirationfilms@gmail.com / 541-619-4053 or Annabel Reeves at
503-501-0143.

Follow the Film:

Seed&Spark: <https://seedandspark.com/fund/the-spirit-moves-through-motown#story>

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