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> Artist: Randy Simpson Project Title: He's Still Alive Label: Plane Jane Records Producers: Randy Simpson

I could count on one hand the number of true friends that I have in the Southern Gospel Industry. Oh, I have many acquaintances and casual friends that I enjoy I talking with, but true friends are rare. Randy Simpson is one of those true friends. Randy and I have spent considerable time eating at various restaurants across Pennsylvania and New York, I have been to a lot of Randy Simpson concerts over the years and I have spent time in various SUV's, RV's and busses (we both have some good stories there) crossing Pennsylvania and other states over the past 15 years or so with Randy and Mark Flanagan. I have been to Randy's house for dinner and visited with him and his wife, Jane, on numerous occasions. Randy is also a very talented soloist and he has a brand new project out titled "He's Still Alive."

The project begins with "I'm Bound For A City" and what a great reminder that we, as Christians, are headed to Heaven! This upbeat song is a great way to remember that! An old Gold City song is next as Randy sings "I Think I'll Read It Again." What a wonderful song to remind us of the power and awesomeness of God's Word. "Walking The Sea" is the next song on this project and it reminds the listener that Jesus will be walking that stormy sea in our lives just like He did in the times of the Bible. I grew up a huge fan of the group Heaven Bound and I love seeing that Randy recorded one of their old songs! The song is "We Are Those Children" and I loved hearing this great old song again!

"Tears Are A Language God Understands" is one of the most beautiful songs I have ever heard. Randy does a great job on this song of comfort that reminds us that God does understand our tears and He is the only one who does truly understand them and He will help us through them. The great Karen Peck and New River tune, "I Wanna Know How It Feels" is next on the project and I love this song. I personally cannot wait to see how it feels to get to Heaven and this song does a great job of helping us imagine that just a little bit more. Next up on the project is a true Southern Gospel Classic titled "In The Sweet By And By." I have always enjoyed that song and Randy has a good version. "Plan Of Salvation" is a song that George Younce made popular with the Cathedrals. While Randy is not a bass singer, he does turn in a fine performance on this song that celebrates the plan of Salvation that the Lord gave us that day at Calvary. Andrae Crouch wrote a lot of great songs and "I've Got Confidence" is one of my favorites that he wrote. Randy sings that next and I love to hear that message that we can have confidence in Christ to see us through all of the situations in our lives!

"More Than Just A Name On The Wall" is a great song that has a touching message in it. It is about a soldier that died and those who are left behind to remember them. Another of the classic songs in Southern Gospel Music is next as Randy tackles "Just A Little Talk With Jesus." It is a great version of that great old song. Randy, over the years, has had a number of recitations and he included one on this project. It is "The Apple Tree" and it is about a young man who is travelling home after he just got saved. It is a modern day version of the Prodigal Son and I know you will enjoy it. The title cut of the project is the final song on the project and "He's Still Alive" is a terrific proclamation that God is still alive and He lives within my heart! I love it and you will too!

I said before that Randy Simpson is a great friend and he is, but Randy is also a very talented singer. This project includes thirteen songs that showcases Randy's vocal abilities very well. The song selection is great and I know you will be blessed by each and every one of them. My favorite songs from the project are "We Are Those Children," "Tears Are A Language God Understands" and "I've Got Confidence." The entire project is very good and you should consider adding it to your Southern Gospel Music collection. For more information on Randy Simpson, visit his website at www.randysimpson.org.