



# PRESS RELEASE

***A Show of Serendipity: WE WANT THE FUNK! Director Stanley Nelson and New Age Funk Musician Josh Stokes Together Corner Baltimore's Station North Arts District***

*April 3, 2025, director Stanley Nelson brought We Want The Funk! documentary to Baltimore just as hometown musician Josh Stokes delivered new age funk two blocks south, opening for band The South Hill Experiment*

Baltimore, MD, **April 17, 2025**

- **April 3, 2025**, director Stanley Nelson screened Independent Lens documentary "We Want the Funk!" at Baltimore's SNF Parkway Theater. At that very hour, just one-tenth of a mile south, hometown new age funk musician Josh Stokes performed songs like "Family," "I Believe," and "It's Your World" at Metro Baltimore, opening up for Baltimore alternative rock band The South Hill Experiment.
- Feb. 24, 2025, "We Want the Funk!" premiered at the Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) at its Doc Fortnight festival. Josh Stokes also has brought the funk to New York City's Museum of Modern Art (MoMA). February 2018, he performed with Abdu Ali as they opened for Afropunk band FUPU at the MoMA PS1 venue in Long Island City (Queens, NY).
- **"All we say to America is be true to what you said on paper."** Josh Stokes repurposes this renowned Martin Luther King quote from King's **April 3, 1968** "I've Been to the Mountain Top" speech on "Let Martin Speak" from Josh Stokes' March 2025 album "Born Free." Triggered by King's April 4 assassination, civil unrest in Baltimore ensued until **April 14, 1968**.

**"WE WANT THE FUNK! made me prouder to be from that family tree ... from such a great collection of brilliant artists and musicians! I am forever impacted by their amazing contributions! The funk will live on through me ... ." — Josh Stokes**

## Contact

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