**DARNELL MOORE**

**&**

**The Gospel Choral**

Praise and worship is at the heart of gospel music. Fred Hammond, Byron Cage and Israel Houghton have paved the way for worship leaders in the African American church. Darnell Moore, an anointed worshipper in his own right, is ready to take on that mantle and exalt his God with adoration and praise. Having shared the stage with artists such as Daryl Coley, Anthony Brown, Kim Burrell, Tye Tribbett, Earnest Pugh and VaShawn Michell, Moore’s heart is to bring people into the presence of the Lord. A gifted musician, songwriter, producer, and vocalist, Darnell currently serves as one of the Directors of Music at Inter-Denominational Church of God in Washington, DC, his calling to worship will be clear to all on his newly released EP in Fall 2019.

The Washington, D.C. native was almost born between the pews. His father, Bishop Devaughan Moore, the Founder/Senior Pastor of Greater Refuge Ministries, since 1990, raised Darnell in a strict, bible-based upbringing, a result of his strong religious and military background. His parents – his mother exchanged her good government job and taught young Darnell the importance of prayer and reading and studying the Bible. For him, those habits became a way of life.

“I remember when I was little, I began to be interested in playing the drums,” recounts Darnell. “But my father said that I had to be saved first. So I accepted Jesus Christ as my Lord and Savior”. After that, he start playing Darnell took to the drums, and fast. He played in church and quickly found that he fell in love with it. Later on, after his hands were doused with holy oil, he gained a gifting for the piano. He was trained by a homeless man he met on the street who taught him – through 4 or 5 lessons, the basics of the keyboard. With an anointing for both instruments, he began playing them at church alternately. After the church’s choir director felt called to other ministries, he was given the job of choir director – at the age of 17. With each opportunity giving him a chance to spread his musical wings, Darnell’s love for music increased and he realized that music ministry was where God had called him. Shortly after came a talent for songwriting.

As he continued to develop the choir, ultimately The Greater Refuge Ministries Choir recorded their first CD entitled, “Bless The Lord: Live”. Released in July 2011, the project showcased the songwriting and vocal talents of Director Moore and catapulted up the charts, peaking in the top 40s on the BDS Gospel Radio Charts. The choir even netted a 2012 Gospel Blue MIC Award for Choir of the Year. The success of the recording gave Moore the confidence he needed to record with his own group, Darnell Moore & Company.

Darnell Moore & Company was formed in 2012, specifically for a church concert. With original material from Moore, the ensemble was a hit and the group members were excited about the future. Initially thinking that the group was formed just for the concert, Darnell had no plans to continue, but God had other plans. Now the group is prepping for their first full release and it’s going to be a praise and worship lovers’ delight. Darnell’s pen has written some powerful tunes for the record as he lifts up of the name of Jesus. Eight of the eleven tracks are praise and worship songs and are destined to bring the Godchaser to the feet of the Savior. “It All Belongs To You” is a festive and up-temp track about the praise belonging to God. Showcasing the amazing songwriting talents of Moore, the track is a feel-good praise jam. Also, the song “Lord, You’re Worthy” is the perfect Sunday morning praise team opener. Worshippers will enjoy the emotive and beautifully-penned track, “You Are Holy.” In 2014, Darnell released a single entitled Here Comes Jesus, which captured the 2015 Gospel Blue MIC Single of the Year.

Darnell has one goal for the album. “I want this project to create an atmosphere of worship,” he says. “I want people to understand that when we focus on His presence and when we praise God, He dwells right there. And if we know that He dwells there, we also know there is fullness of joy. In that joy, God has given us freedom. That’s what I want listeners to experience in listening to this music.”

For the past 15 years, Darnell has traveled the country coast-to-coast, as well as, several internationally, including his most recent trip to Poland in May 2019. Darnell is fully confident that sharing the good news of Christ through music is his assignment.

For Darnell, worship is at the heart of all he does. His love for God supersedes it all. “For me, worship in an inner lifestyle that praise produces outwardly.”