COUNCIL FILE NO. 09-0339 COUNCIL DISTRICT NO. 13

APPROVAL FOR ACCELERATED PROCESSING DIRECT TO CITY COUNCIL

The attached Council File may be processed directly to Council pursuant to the procedure approved June 26, 1990, (CF 83-1075-S1) without being referred to the Public Works Committee because the action on the file checked below is deemed to be routine and/or administrative in nature:

__} A. Future Street Acceptance.
__} B. Quitclaim of Easement(s).
__} C. Dedication of Easement(s).
__} D. Release of Restriction(s).
_x} E. Request for Star in Hollywood Walk of Fame.
__} F. Brass Plaque(s) in San Pedro Sport Walk.
__} G. Resolution to Vacate or Ordinance submitted in response to Council action.
__} H. Approval of plans/specifications submitted by Los Angeles County Flood Control District.

APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL FOR ACCELERATED PROCESSING:

	APPROVED	DISAPPROVED*	
✓1.	_____	_____	Council Office of the District
✓2.	_____	_____	Public Works Committee Chairperson

**DISAPPROVED FILES WILL BE REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE.*

Please return to Council Index Section, Room 615 City Hall

City Clerk Processing:

Date _____ notice and report copy mailed to interested parties advising of Council date for this item.

Date _____ scheduled in Council.

AFTER COUNCIL ACTION:

_____} Send copy of adopted report to the Real Estate Section, Development Services Division, Bureau of Engineering (Mail Stop No. 515) for further processing.
_____} Other: _____

_____

PLEASE <u>DO NOT DETACH</u> THIS APPROVAL SHEET FROM THE COUNCIL FILE

ACCELERATED REVIEW PROCESS - E

Office of the City Engineer

Los Angeles, California

To the Honorable Council

FEB 11 2009

Of the City of Los Angeles

Honorable Members: C. D. No. 13

SUBJECT:

Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street - Walk of Fame Additional Name in Terrazzo Sidewalk – THE MIRACLES

RECOMMENDATIONS:

A. That the City Council designate location No. 4 as shown on Sheet 19 of Plan D-30385 for the Hollywood Walk of Fame for the installation of the name of The Miracles at 7060 Hollywood Boulevard.

B. Inform the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce of the Council's action on this matter.

C. That this report be adopted prior to the date of the ceremony on March 20, 2009.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:

No General Fund Impact. All cost paid by permittee.

TRANSMITTALS:

1. Unnumbered communication dated February 4, 2009, from the Hollywood Historic Trust of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce, biographical information and excerpts from the minutes of the Chamber's meeting with recommendations.

DISCUSSION:

Plan D-30385 details the extension of the Hollywood Walk of Fame along Hollywood Boulevard from Sycamore Avenue to La Brea Avenue. A print of Sheet 19 of said Plan, filed in the office of the City Engineer, identifies locations of Walk of Fame Stars numbered 1 to 148, inclusive.

The Walk of Fame Committee of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has submitted a request for insertion into the Hollywood Walk of Fame the name of The Miracles. The ceremony is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.

The communicant's request is in accordance with City Council action of October 18, 1978, under Council File No. 78-3949. Following the Council's action of approval, and upon proper application and payment of the required fee, an installation permit can be secured at 201 N. Figueroa Street, 3rd Floor, Counter 23.

Respectfully submitted,

FOR Lemuel M. Paco, P.E.
Central District Engineer
Bureau of Engineering

sm: The Miracles.03
(213) 482-7055

cc: Construction Services Center, Counter 23
Bureau of Street Services
Administration

ACCELERATED REVIEW PROCESS - E

Office of the City Engineer

Los Angeles, California

To the Honorable Council

Of the City of Los Angeles

FEB 11 2009

Honorable Members:

C. D. No. 13

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Respectfully submitted,

FOR Lemuel M. Paco, P.E.
Central District Engineer
Bureau of Engineering

sm: The Miracles.03
(213) 482-7055

cc: Construction Services Center, Counter 23
Bureau of Street Services
Administration

HOLLYWOOD
WALK OF FAME

February 4, 2009

Mr. Gary L. Moore
Public Works Engineering
Att: Lemuel Paco
201 N. Figueroa, 3rd Floor, M.S. 503
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Mr. Moore:

The Walk of Fame Committee of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce has approved the below listed name for insertion into the Hollywood Walk of Fame:

THE MIRACLES - (Category –RECORDING) Requested star location to be 7060 Hollywood Blvd., south side of the street. The star for **THE MIRACLES** will be placed in the newer extension of the Walk of Fame. The star will be located next to PAUL NEWMAN which is numbered (5) to the West and a blank star which is numbered (3) to the East. According to Sheet 19, D-30385, the star for **THE MIRACLES** is numbered 4 . The dedication ceremony is scheduled for Friday, March 20, 2009 at 11:30 a.m.

Thank you for your cooperation in this request. I look forward to a response from your office soon.

The following materials are enclosed: **THE MIRACLES'** bio and the Board of Director's Minutes.

Sincerely,

Ana Martinez-Holler
Vice President, Media Relations
cc:
Mayor Villaraigosa
Council President Garcetti
Ins. Owen
Topher Best
Sgt. Mike Arminio
Sally Castro
Top End Construction
Carmine Goglia
Leron Gubler

Sally -
Please note
Motown is celebrating
50th ~~2008~~ anniv.

The Miracles

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The Miracles (known from 1965 to 1972 as **Smokey Robinson & the Miracles**) are an American R&B/soul group from Detroit, Michigan, notable as the first successful group act for Berry Gordy's Motown Records. The Miracles went on to become one of Motown's signature acts of the 1960s, during which time their original lead singer and founding member Smokey Robinson became one of the most successful songwriters and record producers of all time.

In 2004, Rolling Stone Magazine ranked Smokey Robinson and The Miracles (http://www.rollingstone.com/news/story/5939231/32_smokey_robinson_and_the_miracles/) [1] #32 on their list of The Immortals: 100 Greatest Artists of All Time (http://www.rollingstone.com/news/story/5939214/the_immortals_the_first_fifty/).[2].

The Miracles



The most familiar incarnation of The Miracles. From left to right: Smokey Robinson, Claudette Rogers Robinson, Ronald White, Pete Moore, and Bobby Rogers.

Background information

Also known as	The Matadors, Smokey Robinson & the Miracles
Origin	Detroit, Michigan, USA
Genre(s)	R&B/soul
Years active	1955–1983; 1993—
Label(s)	End Tamla/Motown Columbia

Members

Bobby Rogers
Claudette Rogers (Robinson)
Dave Finley
Tee Turner
Mark Scott

Former members

Smokey Robinson
Ronnie White
Pete Moore
Clarence Dawson
James Grice
Emerson Rogers
Billy Griffin
Sidney Justin

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History

Early years

The Miracles began with two young Detroit students, William Robinson and Ronald White, who had become friends and started singing together while in the fifth grade. Robinson, nicknamed "Smokey" because of his love of cowboy movies, started a doo-wop group called *The Five Chimes* in 1955 at Northern High School with himself, White, bass singer Pete Moore, Clarence Dawson, and James Grice. Within a half a year, Dawson and Grice had been replaced by cousins Emerson and Bobby Rogers, and the group's name had been changed to *The Matadors*. Emerson Rogers was drafted in 1956. He was replaced by his sister Claudette Rogers, who married Smokey Robinson in November 1959. In 1960, the group added guitarist Marv Tarplin, who had originally been the accompanist for The Primettes (later known as The Supremes).

In 1958, local songwriter Berry Gordy and colleague Tryan Carlo aka Roquel Billy Davis wrote a song called "Got a Job" as an answer song to The Silhouettes' hit single "Get A Job". Gordy, an admirer of the Matadors, took the song to the group, and got them a deal with End Records. At this time, they changed their name to *The Miracles*, as "Matadors" had a masculine sound to it, and the group now included a girl. Gordy became the group's main outside collaborator, and he and Robinson wrote another Miracles single, "Bad Girl". Issued on Chess Records, "Bad Girl" became the group's first charting single, peaking at #93. After a suggestion from Robinson, Gordy founded Tamla Records (later Motown) in 1959, and signed The Miracles as one of his first acts. By 1961, Robinson would be appointed vice-president of the corporation.

Motown success years

After three unsuccessful singles, The Miracles' fourth Tamla single, "Shop Around" (1960), became their first Motown hit, and was the first Motown song to reach #1 on the R&B charts.It was also the label's first million-selling record. "Shop Around" was followed by many more hits such as the much-covered "Who's Lovin' You" ("Shop Around's" B-side), "You Really Got a Hold on Me" (1962),"What's So Good About Goodbye" (1962),"I'll Try Something New" (1962} "Mickey's Monkey" (1963), "Going To A Go-Go" (1965),"My Girl Has Gone" (1965) the all-time classic "The Tracks Of My Tears" (1965), and their signature song, "Ooo Baby Baby" (1965). During this period, The Miracles were the most popular group on the label, and as its lead singer, Smokey Robinson became a popular teen idol. Behind the scenes, Robinson handled most of the songwriting and production for not only the Miracles, but for

most of the acts on Motown during this early period. During the first half of the 1960s, Robinson tutored both The Supremes and The Temptations, and he and various members of the Miracles penned hits for the Temptations ("The Way You Do The Things You Do", "My Girl", "Since I Lost My Baby")("Don"t Look Back"}, Mary Wells ("My Guy")("The One Who Really Loves You"), Marvin Gaye ("I'll Be Doggone", "Ain't That Peculiar"), The Marvelettes ("Don't Mess With Bill"),The Contours ("First I Look At The Purse"} and Brenda Holloway ("When I'm Gone").



The Miracles in the early 1960s. Clockwise from top left: Bobby Rogers, Marv Tarplin, Ronald White, Claudette Rogers, and Smokey Robinson. At the time of this photograph, Miracles member Pete Moore (not pictured) was serving in the US Army after being drafted.

Despite their success, the Miracles were beset with a number of personal problems as well. During the first Motor Town Revue tour, Smokey Robinson caught the Asian flu, requiring Claudette Robinson to take over his role as lead singer until he recovered. In addition, Pete Moore was drafted into the US Army, and remained away from the group for over a year.

Smokey and Claudette Robinson made plans to begin a family, but the rough life of touring caused Claudette to have several miscarriages. In early 1964, Claudette decided to retire from the road and remain at home in Detroit. From this point on, Claudette did not tour with the Miracles or appear in any official group photographs or on television, although she continued to sing backup with the group in the studio until 1972. Acknowledging Smokey Robinson's presence upfront, the Miracles changed their name to "Smokey Robinson & the Miracles" with the release of the *Going to a Go-Go* album in 1965, although their singles continued to be credited to "The Miracles" until the release of "The Love I Saw in You was Just a Mirage" in 1967.

After scoring a few more major hits such as ("Come Round Here) I'm The One You Need",(1966),"Just A Mirage"(1966),"I Second That Emotion]]" (1967),"More Love"(1967), " If You Can Want " (1968) and "Baby Baby Don't Cry" (1969), The Miracles' career began to falter somewhat during the late 1960s. Constantly away from home and his family, Smokey Robinson began planning to leave the group for a solo career, which would allow him more time to remain at home more often and concentrate on his role as vice-president of Motown. Robinson told White, Moore, and Rogers of his intentions in 1969, but Robinson decided to stay for three more years when the group's 1970 single "The Tears of a Clown" became the group's biggest hit to date.

"The Tears of a Clown" had in fact been recorded in 1967 in the album *Make It Happen*, and became the group's first US number-one hit (and their only number-one hit with Smokey Robinson) after first reaching number-one in the United Kingdom. This led to the reissue of *Make It Happen* as *Tears of a Clown*: same tracks, same cover, different title. In addition, the group had its own ABC television special in 1970 with *The Smokey Robinson Show*, which starred The Miracles and guest-starred The Temptations and The Supremes.

Exit Smokey Robinson, enter Billy Griffin

In late 1971, Robinson announced that he would indeed leave the Miracles, and the group began a six-month farewell tour of the United States. Robinson's final performance as a Miracle was on July 16,

1972 at the Carter Barron Amphitheater in Washington, DC. For this performance, Claudette Rogers Robinson rejoined the group onstage for the first time in eight years. At the conclusion of the concert, which Motown later released as a live album entitled *1957–1972*, Robinson introduced the group's new lead singer, Billy Griffin, who was also introduced to the national television audience on NBC'S "The Midnight Special",on an episode hosted by Smokey. Griffin's arrival marked the departure of not only Smokey Robinson, but Claudette Robinson and Marv Tarplin as well. Tarplin continued to tour and work with Smokey Robinson, while Griffin's brother Donald became the Miracles' new guitarist. The Miracles continued, scoring two more Top 40 hits: 1973's #13 hit "Do It Baby", and 1976's #1 hit "Love Machine (Part 1)", the biggest hit of the group's existence. However, the group's other releases failed to match the success of "Love Machine", and The Miracles never managed to regain their former fame. In 1977, they left Motown for Columbia Records, where their releases failed to make an impact.

Later years

In 1978, Billy Griffin and Pete Moore retired from performing to concentrate on songwriting, although Billy went on to enjoy a brief and quietly successful solo career in the mid-1980s (his signature song 'Hold Me Tighter In The Rain' still gaining radio airplay today). Marv Tarplin left the group five years earlier, and began touring with Smokey, now a solo artist, and Ronnie White and Bobby Rogers recruited new member Dave Finley. After reuniting with Smokey Robinson on the *Motown 25* television special in 1983, the Miracles essentially disbanded and ceased to perform.

Motown held a 35th anniversary retrospective for the Miracles in 1993, and Ronnie White and Bobby Rogers decided to reunite the group. The two of them and Dave Finley recruited Sidney Justin (formerly of Shalamar) as the new fourth member, and began making personal appearances and touring. White, the last founding member remaining in the group, died of leukemia in 1995, and the other three members carried on as a trio for some time. In 1987, Smokey Robinson was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a solo artist,but, in a decision that has since sparked much controversy, the other original Miracles, Bobby,Ronnie,(now deceased), Pete,Claudette, and Marv, were not. In early 2007, "The Tracks of My Tears" became the fourth Miracles song to be inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame.The other inducted songs were "Shop Around" (inducted 2006), "The Tears of a Clown" (inducted 2002), and "You've Really Got a Hold on Me" (inducted in 1998). Today, the Miracles are comprised of classic-era members Bobby Rogers and Claudette Robinson, along with Dave Finley, Tee Turner, and new lead singer Mark Scott. The group continues to tour and perform, and, in 2001, The Miracles were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame. Despite the fact that they didn't have the flashy dance steps of The Temptations (although they were still great dancers),or the huge pop success of The Supremes, many critics still arguably consider The Miracles Motown's greatest group because 1) By being the 1st group on the label,& having the label's 1st million selling record , The Miracles started the entire Motown phenomenon. 2) Their continued recording and touring success also paved the way for all the artists who followed them, and 3) Their self-written hits actually helped build Berry Gordy's Motown Records label and (and the careers of many of the artists on it), and helped to establish an entirely new musical genre "The Motown Sound" the success of which forever altered the course of Black- based R&B music to turn it into an internationally popular phenomenon to this very day.

Cover Versions

The Miracles, Motown's first group, are also the most covered Motown group of all time. Almost all of their hits were self-written, unique among Motown groups, and due to their consistent high quality,

Martinez-Holler, Ana

From: BRON215@aol.com
Sent: Friday, May 30, 2008 2:21 PM
To: Martinez-Holler, Ana
Subject: "The Miracles" Information

Greetings, Ana....Here is the information on "The Miracles"....Much thanks for your assistance!!!
Ron Brewington, Executive Director, Motown Alumni Association, Los Angeles Chapter

P.S.. If you need **any** additional information, I'm at: 323-533-1036 or bron215@aol.com

The Miracles



The most familiar incarnation of The Miracles. From left to right: Smokey Robinson, Claudette Rogers Robinson, Ronald White, Pete Moore, and Bobby Rogers.

Background information

Also known as	The Matadors, Smokey Robinson & the Miracles
Origin	Detroit, Michigan, USA
Genre(s)	R&B/soul
Years active	1955 — 1983; 1993—present
Label(s)	End, Tamla/Motown, Columbia

Members

Bobby Rogers
Claudette Rogers (Robinson)
Dave Finley
Tee Turner
Mark Scott

Former members

Smokey Robinson
Ronnie White
Pete Moore
Marv Tarplin
Clarence Dawson
James Grice
Emerson Rogers
Billy Griffin
Sidney Justin

Donald Griffin

The Miracles (known from 1965 to 1972 as **Smokey Robinson & the Miracles**) is an American rhythm and blues group from Detroit, Michigan, notable as the first successful group act for Berry Gordy's Motown Records. The Miracles went on to become one of Motown's signature acts of the 1960s, during which time their original lead singer and founding member Smokey Robinson became one of the most successful songwriters and record producers of all time.

During their nineteen year run on the American music charts, The Miracles charted over fifty hits and recorded in the genres of doo wop, soul, disco, and R&B. Twenty-six Miracles songs reached the Top Ten of the *Billboard* R&B singles chart, including four R&B number ones. Sixteen of the Miracles' songs charted within the Top 20 of the Billboard Hot 100, with seven songs charting within the Top Ten and two - 1970's "The Tears of a Clown" and 1975's "Love Machine" (Part 1) - reaching number-one.

In 2004, Rolling Stone Magazine ranked Smokey Robinson & the Miracles [1] #32 on their list of The Immortals: 100 Greatest Artists of All Time.[2].

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  - 4.2 Top Forty albums
- 5 References
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[edit] History

[edit] Early years

The Miracles began with two young Detroit students, William Robinson and Ronald White, who had become friends and started singing together while in the fifth grade. Robinson, nicknamed "Smokey" because of his love of cowboy movies, started a doo-wop group called *The Five Chimes* in 1955 at Northern High School with himself, White, bass singer Pete Moore, Clarence Dawson, and James Grice. Within a half a year, Dawson and Grice had been replaced by cousins Emerson and Bobby Rogers, and the group's name had been changed to *The Matadors*. Rogers and Robinson were actually born on the same day - February 19, 1940 - in the same Detroit hospital, although they did not meet until they were fifteen years old.

Emerson Rogers was drafted in 1956. He was replaced by his sister Claudette Rogers, who married Smokey Robinson in November 1959. In 1958, the group added guitarist Marv Tarplin, who had originally been the accompanist for The Primettes (later known as The Supremes).

In 1958, the Matadors auditioned for the manager of Detroit soul star Jackie Wilson, who turned the group down because he felt their sound and four-man-one-woman lineup were too similar to The Platters, a popular vocal group. On their way out the door, the group ran into one of Wilson's chief songwriters, Berry Gordy, Jr. Gordy took a liking to the group, and eventually became the group's manager. In addition, Gordy worked closely with Robinson, the Matadors' chief songwriter, helping him to improve his songcraft.

Gordy and his colleague Billy Davis had written a song called "Got a Job" as an answer song to "Get A Job", a recent hit by The Silhouettes. The Matadors recorded the single, and Gordy arranged a record deal for them with End Records. At this time, they changed their name to *The Miracles*, as "Matadors" had a masculine sound to it, and the group now included a woman. Gordy became the group's main outside collaborator, and he and Robinson wrote another Miracles single, "Bad Girl". Issued on Chess Records, "Bad Girl" became the group's first charting single, peaking at #93.

Frustrated by low financial returns due to the group's practice of selling their masters to various labels, Robinson suggested Gordy start his own record label. Thus, in 1959, Gordy founded Tamla Records (later Motown), and signed The Miracles as one of his first acts. By 1961, Robinson would be appointed vice-president of the corporation.



The Miracles in the early 1960s. Clockwise from top left: Bobby Rogers, Marv Tarplin, Ronald White, Claudette Rogers, and Smokey Robinson. At the time of this photograph, Miracles member Pete Moore (not pictured) was serving in the US Army after being drafted.

[edit] Success at Motown: 1960 - 1967

After three unsuccessful singles, The Miracles' fourth Tamla single, "Shop Around" backed with "Who's Lovin' You" (1960), became their first Motown hit. "Shop Around" was the first Motown song to reach #1 on the national R&B charts, and the first to sell over a million copies. Both sides of this record became standards for R&B and rock musicians for several decades afterwards. In the wake of this success, the Miracles became the first Motown act to perform on Dick Clark's *American Bandstand* in February 1961. "Shop Around" was followed by many more hits, including "You Really Got a Hold on Me" (Top 10) (1962),"What's So Good About Goodbye" (1962), "Mickey's Monkey" (Top 10) (1963), "Going to a Go-Go" (1965), "My Girl Has Gone" (1965), "The Tracks Of My Tears" (1965), and their signature song, "Ooo Baby Baby" (1965).

During this period, The Miracles were the most popular group on the label. The Miracles' success paved the

way for all future Motown stars, and the group was the headlining act of the Motor Town Revue, a nationwide package concert touring show which showcased Motown artists. The group also influenced a significant number of outside performers as well, particularly The Beatles, who covered The Miracles' "You Really Got a Hold on Me" on their second album, *With the Beatles*. John Lennon of the Beatles acknowledged Smokey Robinson as one of his favorite writers, and named the Miracles' "I've Been Good To You" as one of his favorite songs. George Harrison also greatly admired Robinson and paid tribute to him in his 1976 song 'Pure Smokey'.

Behind the scenes, Robinson handled most of the songwriting and production for not only the Miracles, but for most of the acts on Motown during this early period. During the first half of the 1960s, Robinson tutored labelmates The Supremes and The Temptations. Indeed, by the time each group had its breakthrough hit in 1964, the Miracles had already issued a double-LP greatest hits album, *Greatest Hits from the Beginning*.

In addition to penning their own material, Miracles Robinson, White, Rogers, Tarplin, and Moore wrote for many of their labelmates as well. Motown hits written, but not recorded, by members of the Miracles include songs for the Temptations ("The Way You Do The Things You Do", "My Girl", "Since I Lost My Baby", "Get Ready"), Mary Wells ("My Guy", "The One Who Really Loves You", "Two Lovers"), Marvin Gaye ("I'll Be Doggone", "Ain't That Peculiar"), The Marvelettes ("Don't Mess With Bill"), The Contours ("First I Look At The Purse), and Brenda Holloway ("When I'm Gone").

Despite their success, the Miracles were beset with a number of personal problems during the early and mid-1960s. During the first Motor Town Revue tour, Smokey Robinson caught the Asian flu, requiring Claudette Robinson to take over his role as lead singer until he recovered. In addition, Pete Moore was drafted into the US Army, and remained away from the group for over a year. Smokey and Claudette Robinson made plans to begin a family, but the rough life of touring caused Claudette to have several miscarriages. In early 1964, Claudette decided to retire from the road and remain at home in Detroit. From this point on, Claudette did not tour with the Miracles or appear in any official group photographs or on television, although she continued to sing backup with the group in the studio until 1972.

[edit] Smokey Robinson & the Miracles: 1965 - 1971

After Claudette Robinson's departure, the remaining Miracles appeared in *The T.A.M.I. Show*, a 1964 concert film which also featured The Supremes, Marvin Gaye, The Beach Boys, Chuck Berry , The Rolling Stones, and James Brown & the Famous Flames. The Miracles also appeared on many of the popular variety television programs of the period, including *The Ed Sullivan Show*, *Shindig!*, *Hullabaloo*, *American Bandstand* , *Where The Action Is*, *The Mike Douglas Show*, and Britain's *Ready Steady Go*. Acknowledging Robinson's presence upfront, the Miracles changed their name to "Smokey Robinson & the Miracles" in 1965, although they were billed as simply "The Miracles" on their 45s until "The Love I Saw in You Was Just a Mirage", a Top 20 pop hit, in 1967. On that song's flip side was "Come Spy with Me"; The Miracles sang the original theme to the 1967 20th Century Fox film of the same name.

After scoring a few more major hits such as "(Come 'Round Here) I'm The One You Need" (1966),the Top 10 "I Second That Emotion" (1967), and "More Love" (1967), The Miracles' career began to falter somewhat during the late 1960s. The group still continued to chart hits, including "If You Can Want" (1968), "Special Occasion" (1968), and the Top 10 "Baby, Baby Don't Cry" (1969). However, their position as the label's preeminent act had been long usurped by Diana Ross & the Supremes, their former protégés. Constantly away from home and his family, Smokey Robinson began planning to leave the group for a solo career, which would allow him time to remain at home more often and concentrate on his role as vice-president of Motown Records . Robinson told White, Moore, and Rogers of his intentions in 1969, but Robinson decided to stay for two more years when the group's 1970 single "The Tears of a Clown" became their biggest hit to date.

"The Tears of a Clown" had, in fact, been recorded in 1967 for the album *Make It Happen*, and became the group's first US number-one hit (and their only number-one hit with Smokey Robinson). Also in 1970, the group was given its own ABC television special, *The Smokey Robinson Show*, which guest-starred The Temptations and The Supremes.

[edit] Exit Smokey Robinson, enter Billy Griffin

After one more Top 20 hit in late 1971, "I Don't Blame You At All", Robinson announced that he would indeed leave the Miracles, and the group began a six-month farewell tour of the United States. Coinciding with this tour was the release of the group's final studio album with Robinson, *Flying High Together* (1972). The lead single, "We've Come Too Far To End It Now", became a Top 10 R&B hit.

Robinson's final performance as a Miracle was at the Carter Barron Amphitheater in Washington, DC on July 16, 1972. For this performance, Claudette Rogers Robinson rejoined the group onstage for the first time in eight years. At the conclusion of the concert, which Motown later released as a live album entitled "Smokey Robinson & The Miracles:1957-1972", Robinson introduced the group's new lead singer, Billy Griffin. Griffin was introduced to national television audiences on NBC'S *The Midnight Special*, on an episode guest-starring The Miracles and hosted by Smokey Robinson, broadcast on July 13, 1973.

Griffin's arrival marked the departure of not only Smokey Robinson, but Claudette Robinson and Marv Tarplin as well. Tarplin continued to tour and work with Smokey Robinson, while his replacement, Griffin's brother Donald, became the Miracles' new guitarist. The Miracles continued, scoring two more Top 40 hits: 1973's #13 hit "Do It Baby", and 1976's #1 hit "Love Machine (Part 1)", the group's biggest hit. The Miracles also scored a Top 10 R&B hit with "Don't Cha Love It". However, the group's other releases failed to match the success of "Love Machine", and The Miracles never managed to regain their former fame. In 1977, they left Motown for Columbia Records, where their releases failed to make an impact.

[edit] Later years,Awards,and The RRHOF Controversy

In 1978, Billy Griffin and Pete Moore retired from performing to concentrate on songwriting. Griffin later went on to enjoy a briefly successful solo career in the 1980s, scoring a hit with "Hold Me Tighter in the Rain" in 1982. Ronnie White and Bobby Rogers recruited new member Dave Finley. After reuniting with Smokey Robinson on the *Motown 25* television special in 1983, the Miracles essentially disbanded and ceased to perform.

Motown held a 35th anniversary retrospective for the Miracles in 1993, and Ronnie White and Bobby Rogers decided to reunite the group. The two of them and Dave Finley recruited Sidney Justin (formerly of Shalamar) as the new fourth member, and began making personal appearances and touring. White, the last founding member remaining in the group, died of leukemia in 1995, and the other three members carried on as a trio for some time. In 1987, Smokey Robinson was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a solo artist. In a move that has since proved controversial, the other original Miracles - Bobby Rogers, Ronnie White, Pete Moore, Marv Tarplin, and Claudette Robinson - were not inducted. The Miracles as a unit *were* honored with the national Rhythm and Blues Foundation's Pioneer Award in 1997, and inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 2001.

A video retrospective of the Miracles' work, *Smokey Robinson & The Miracles: The Definitive Performances*, was released on DVD by Motown Records and Universal Home Video in late 2006. It featured new interview footage with original Miracles Smokey Robinson, Pete Moore, and Bobby Rogers. In early 2007, "The Tracks of My Tears" became the fourth Miracles song to be inducted into the Grammy Hall of Fame. The other inducted songs are "Shop Around" (inducted 2006), "The Tears of a Clown" (inducted 2002), and "You've Really Got a Hold on Me" (inducted 1998). Three Miracles songs, "The Tracks Of My Tears", "Ooo Baby Baby", and "Shop Around" are in *Rolling Stone* magazine's list of "The 500 Greatest Songs Of All Time", and their 1965 *Going To A Go-Go* album is on *Rolling Stone's* list of "The 500 Greatest Albums Of All Time".With their song, "The Tears Of A Clown", The Miracles are also noted as the first-ever Motown artists to have a #1 record in England (***Mary Wells' 'My Guy' was the first Motown song to go #1 in the UK, not 'Tears of a Clown***.) In addition, "Going to a Go-Go", "The Tracks of My Tears", and "You've Really Got a Hold on Me " are on The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's list of "The 500 Songs That Helped Shape Rock and Roll", and Rolling Stone Magazine ranked the Miracles # 32 in their list of "The Immortals: The 100 Greatest Artists Of All Time".

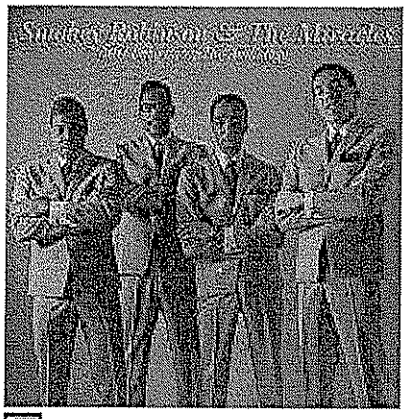
Today, the Miracles are comprised of classic-era members Bobby Rogers and Claudette Robinson, along with Dave Finley, Tee Turner, and new lead singer Mark Scott. The group continues to tour and perform, and, in 2001, The Miracles were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame.

[edit] Cover versions

official Miracles photographs, after this point, she continued to sing backup with the group on record for as long as her husband Smokey Robinson was a member.

[edit] Discography

For a detailed listing of albums and singles, see Miracles discography.



The Miracles circa 1966. From left to right: Pete Moore, Bobby Rogers, Ronnie White, and Smokey Robinson

[edit] Top Twenty US and UK singles

- 1960: "Shop Around" (US: #2)
- 1962: "You've Really Got a Hold on Me" (US #8)
- 1963: "Mickey's Monkey" (US #8)
- 1965: "Ooo Baby Baby" (US: #16)
- 1965: "The Tracks of My Tears" (US #16, UK #9)
- 1965: "My Girl Has Gone" (US #14)
- 1965: "Going to a Go-Go" (US #11)
- 1966: "(Come 'Round Here) I'm The One You Need" (US #17, UK #13)
- 1967: "The Love I Saw in You Was Just a Mirage" (US #20)
- 1967: "I Second That Emotion" (US #4)
- 1968: "If You Can Want" (US: #11)
- 1969: "Baby, Baby Don't Cry" (US #8)
- 1970: "The Tears of a Clown" (US #1, UK: #1)
- 1971: "I Don't Blame You At All" (US #18, UK #11)
- 1974: "Do It Baby" (US #13)
- 1976: "Love Machine - Pt. I"(US #1, UK #3)

[edit] Top Forty albums

- 1965: *Greatest Hits from the Beginning* (US #21)
- 1965: *Going to a Go-Go* (US #8)
- 1967: *Make It Happen* (US #28)
- 1968: *Greatest Hits, Vol. 2* (US #7)
- 1969: *Time Out For Smokey Robinson & the Miracles* (US #25)
- 1975: *City of Angels* (US #33)

[edit] References

The Miracles, Motown's first group, are also the most covered Motown group of all time. Almost all of their hits were self-written, making them unique among Motown acts. Many of the Miracles' songs have been major hits or important recordings for other artists. Among these are:

- "Going to a Go-Go" - The Rolling Stones, The Hags, and Secret Affair.
- "I Second That Emotion" - Japan, Michael McDonald, Kiki Dee, The Manhattan Transfer, Jerry Garcia, Diana Ross & the Supremes with the Temptations, 10db, Tammy Wynette, Jose Feliciano.
- "(Come 'Round Here) I'm The One You Need " - The Jackson 5, The Cowsills, The GP's
- "If You Can Want" - The Dirtbombs
- "I'll Try Something New" - Diana Ross & the Supremes with the Temptations, A Taste of Honey, Spyder Turner (as an excerpt from his cover of "Stand By Me")
- "My Girl Has Gone" - Etienne Daho, Bobby Taylor .
- "The Love I Saw In You Was Just A Mirage" - The Jackson 5, Vance Gilbert, The Uniques
- "Love Machine" - Wham, Thelma Houston
- "Mickey's Monkey"- Mother's Finest, Martha & The Vandellas, The Hollies, The Young Rascals, John Mellencamp
- "More Love" - Kim Carnes, Paul Young, Barbara McNair, Mica Paris
- "Ooo Baby Baby" - Linda Ronstadt, Shalamar, Ruby Turner, Sylvester, Spirit Traveler, The Five Stairsteps, Zapp, Laura Nyro, Ella Fitzgerald, Honey Cone,Human Nature
- "Shop Around" - The Captain and Tennille and Georgie Fame, among numerous others
- "The Tears Of A Clown" - Latoya Jackson, The Beat, The Rocking Chairs, The Re-Bops, Nnenna Freelon, The Flying Picketts,Caligula, Human Nature .
- "The Tracks Of My Tears " - Linda Ronstadt, Aretha Franklin, Johnny Rivers, Gladys Knight & The Pips, Mongo Santamaria, and Bryan Ferry, Boyz II Men,Human Nature, among many others
- "Who's Loving You" - The Jackson 5, En Vogue, Terence Trent D'Arby, Brenda Holloway, The Supremes, Honey Cone.
- " You've Really Got a Hold on Me" - Percy Sledge, The Beatles, The Zombies, Aidan Smith, Sonny & Cher, Mickey Gilley, Cyndi Lauper, The Bobs, Greg Brown, The Small Faces, and Bobby McFerrin, among many others
- "I Gotta Dance To Keep From Crying" - The Who
- "From Head To Toe" - Elvis Costello, Chris Clark
- " A Fork In The Road " - Rebbie Jackson
- "Way Over There" - The Royal Counts, The Temptations, Edwin Starr
- "(You Can't Let The Boy Overpower) The Man In You" - Chuck Jackson
- "What's So Good About Goodbye" - Giant Sunflower, The Temptations
- "More, More, More Of Your Love"- Bob Brady & the Con Chords
- "Swept For You Baby" - The Sylvers, The Blenders
- "The Hurt Is Over" - The DT's
- "Save Me" - The Undertones

[edit] Members

- Smokey Robinson (1955–1972)
- Ronnie White (1955–1983; 1993–1995)
- Pete Moore (1955–1978)
- Clarence Dawson (1955)
- James Grice (1955)
- Emerson Rogers (1956)
- Bobby Rogers (1956–1983; 1993–present)
- Claudette Rogers (Robinson) (1956–1964; 2005-present)
- Marv Tarplin (1958-1973)
- Billy Griffin (1972–1978; late 1990s)
- Dave Finley (1978–1983; 1993–present)
- Sidney Justin (1993–c.2000)
- Tee Turner (1996–present)
- Mark Scott (2005–present)

(*) Claudette Robinson retired from performing in 1964 to start a family. Although she does not appear in any