

I was done putting out records. The first release on my Skank label was in 2004. The most recent was in 2012. Ten strong discs in an 8 year span. I was proud of what I had achieved, spreading crucial reggae worldwide, but I decided the time had come and gone for Skank Records.

I continued spinning reggae, though, on one of the best radio stations in the land, KDHX. Then for some reason, mismanagement at the station unjustly fired numerous DJs in late 2023. I resigned in solidarity, 32 years after my first show on the air. I had previously promoted some concerts and with the void of reggae over the airwaves, I decided to put on another show, along with a record spin, and called it *Unity In The Community*. It was a great event but Mother Nature didn't cooperate and I decided that was the end of my promoting days, as well.

A friend who I had turned on to reggae a few years earlier, Steve Fern, asked me when I was putting on the next show. I explained that I was done after taking a big loss that night. He was adamant that he would help finance the next one and I said we'd talk.

Around that same time, Zion Albert, the headliner of my event, mentioned that he had contacted Taj Weekes to seek help with his career. I then talked with Taj and he said that he would be interested in working with Zion, that he would even write a record for him. That got me thinking.

I visited my above-mentioned friend, who I dubbed "Fernster," and asked if, instead of a concert, he'd be interested in a recording involving Taj and Zion. Thankfully, he was up for it.

Throughout the years, Zion has released many discs, with two of them on Skank Records. He's a humble, talented artist with a fantastic voice and vibe. Taj Weekes is one of the greatest artists of our generation. He's a prolific songwriter and has been one of my all-time favorites for years.

Even though Zion is exceptionally talented, we agreed to let Taj do his thing and see what happens. He started sending scratch demos to myself and Zion and we were both blown away. We knew we had something extremely special.

Taj relied heavily on Shelton Garner, his trusted musical partner since his debut, to help articulate his vision and make it a reality, while Zion flew to New York to lay down his vocals. Taj also produced the disc (with co-producing credits going to Sidney Mills - of Steel Pulse fame - and Garner). The result is outstanding.

The interplay of Taj and Zion's vocals will go down in history as some of the best ever. Exemplary songwriting, conscious lyrics and fantastic musicianship makes "Eyes To See" one of the strongest roots, rock, reggae recordings you'll ever hear and I'm proud to present it, in collaboration with Jatta Records, to the world.

Give thanks to Taj and Zion for their talent, to Steve Fern, the "Fernster," who without his help this disc never would have materialized, and to Jah for giving us life, and the strength, to make it happen.

Enjoy, turn it up and skank it hard  
- Professor Skank