

THE MARTINS BIOGRAPHY

Siblings, **Joyce, Jonathan and Judy**, collectively known as **The Martins**, have enjoyed countless radio hits and performances at concert halls, arenas, auditoriums and churches worldwide. During the 1990s, The Martins rose to national and international success, showcasing their stunning and distinctive harmonies before a vast array of audiences, from legendary singer/songwriter Bill Gaither's multi-award winning Homecoming Video and Concert Series to the White House to Carnegie Hall. Over the years the Trio garnered eight Dove Awards from the Gospel Music Association, as well as a prestigious Grammy nomination.

In 2003, the siblings chose to take different paths. "We needed that time off to recharge our batteries on all levels," Joyce explains. "That was a very important time for each of us. We needed to grow individually, both in our spiritual lives, as well as in our personal lives."

After nearly a decade of pursuing individual music careers, the three reunited in 2010, and today their precedent-setting musical influence is as strong as ever. In 2011, they released their first new recording together in 10 years. *New Day*, distributed by Gaither Music Group, was produced by Jay DeMarcus (Rascal Flatts), and features the trio's unmatched family harmony. In support of the release, The Martins returned to touring and found the welcome arms of audiences who have been embracing their music for decades. "Once we got back on stage," Joyce shares, "something just clicked and felt right, so we thought, 'If God, in His graciousness, was willing to use us again as a trio, who are we to say that He shouldn't?'"

With renewed family bonds, the ensuing reunion yielded a fresh step forward. Part of that step forward has placed them on the familiar Gaither Homecoming stages. Also, in addition to their regular concert dates, in the spring of 2014, The Martins began touring with long-time friend and popular comedian, Mark Lowry. "We are having the most incredible fun," Judy states. "Audiences never know what to expect at these concerts with Mark, and honestly, most of the time, we don't know what to expect either, but we are having tons of fun."

In 2013, the Martins returned to the studio with three renown arrangers, Lari Goss, Michael English, Matthew Holt and David Phelps, to record *The Martins A Cappella*. The recording marks the first a cappella release for trio since 1996 and features The Martins' unmatched and unmistakable rich vocal abilities. "This new music is something that has challenged us beyond our expectations," says Joyce. "We had to work harder than ever and strive for the excellence we believe God expects from us."

"A cappella music is the purest form of vocal music," adds Jonathan. "It keeps you on your toes and makes you sing better. To perform it live you have to be on your 'A game.' To attempt it is humbling; to accomplish it is exciting and rewarding."

No doubt, exciting and rewarding for both the singer and all those who hear. With a long list of tour dates and an exceptional new recording, exciting and rewarding times most definitely await The Martins and audiences worldwide.