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For Immediate Release:

**HT PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:
AN EVENING WITH AARON NEVILLE
Sunday, October 8 at 7 pm
NEW SONY/BMG RELEASE DUE SEPTEMBER 19**

HT Productions will present **An Evening with Aaron Neville** in concert Sunday, October 8 at 7:00 pm, at Berklee Performance Center, 136 Massachusetts Avenue, Boston. Tickets at \$48.00 and \$38.00 (includes \$.50 Berklee Performance Center restoration charge) go on sale Friday, September 1 at 10 a.m. at the Berklee Performance Center Box office, at all Ticketmaster outlets, at www.ticketmaster.com or by calling: (617/508) 931-2000. **For more information, call: 617-747-2261.**

After five decades of consistent hit-making, Neville has, in the words of one Rolling Stone writer, "reached a highpoint in a career marked by artistic superlatives. ***Bring It On Home...The Soul Classics*** is an album for the ages and Neville's most remarkable work to date."

"These classic songs," says Aaron, "have been pumping blood to my heart from the first second they heard them. They've been a part of my life. Singing them, especially in the aftermath of Katrina, was a deeply spiritual experience. They helped me get through. They gave me hope. And for me, music has always been about hope."

The third youngest of the famous four Neville brothers-Art and Charles are older, Cyril's younger-Aaron was born into one of New Orleans' most celebrated families.

His first influence was Art. "I never heard a better singer or funkier keyboardist than my big brother," says Aaron.

"Brother Charles," he continues, "was the family jazzman. He blew sax and schooled me in the ways of improvisation. Brother Cyril was our James Brown. He was-and still is-a great singer. He burns with soul."

Aaron was the first Neville to burn his way up the national charts. In 1966, his "Tell It Like It Is" hit number-one. Unfortunately, the label, Par-Lo, went broke before Aaron got paid. On the strength of the smash, though, Neville toured nationally and established his status and a singular style marked by a rare and haunting beauty.

"That style," he says, "is rooted in the doo wop of the fifties-- the Moonlows, the Flamingos, the Clovers and a close friend, Pookie Hudson and the Spaniels. But I was also deep into the gospel groups, the Pilgrim Travelers, the Brooklyn All-Stars and The Blind Boys of Alabama. And then there were those yodeling cowboys. I loved them."

The seventies were rough, but Aaron successfully fought off a slew of demons and, together with his brothers and their beloved Uncle Jolly, created The Wild Tchoupitoulas, a dazzling suite of Mardi Gras Indian songs that holds a high place in American music.

The brothers pursued other projects on their own, most notably Art and Cyril's work with the Meters. Later the Neville Brothers, with Aaron as one of the lead vocalists, were signed to Capitol, and then to A&M where, in the eighties, they recorded a series of memorable albums, including *Yellow Moon*. (Aaron wrote the title track, a major hit.) Aaron's solo career was re-launched in the nineties when Linda Ronstadt and George Massenburg produced his *Warm My Heart*, a major bestseller. The nineties was also the decade when the industry began awarding Aaron with its most prestigious prize: He won two Grammys® in duets with Linda Ronstadt, "Don't Know Much" and "All My Life," both ten-top hits.

In the coming years, Aaron would be nominated for 16 Grammys® in categories as diverse as country and western, pop, r&b and gospel. In 1994, he and Trisha Yearwood won Best Country and Western vocal collaboration for "I Fall to Pieces." In this same period, he won Best Male Singer two years running in the Rolling Stone critics' poll.

"When I was in the booth singing these songs, songs so connected to my life before Katrina, I couldn't help but think how this storm changed everything. I was thinking about all those people in the water. Thinking of friends I might never see again. Thinking of how I had lost my home, how three of my sons, my brother Cyril and sister Athelgra all had lost their homes. So much loss was on my mind."

"The idea behind the record was simplicity itself," says producer Stewart Levine, whose work, among many others, with Simply Red, the Crusaders and B.B. King has earned him an international reputation for creative excellence.

"We took these iconic songs and stripped them to their essence. We didn't want Aaron to cover them; we wanted him to redefine

them. He did just that. He turned them into personal testimonies. The truth is that, as a vocalist, he's on a par with the artists who made these tunes legendary-Marvin Gaye, Sam Cooke, Al Green, Otis Redding, Curtis Mayfield. It's foolish to compare masters-they each possess unique genius-but Aaron's genius, evident in this record, is still expanding, still deepening."

"Aaron also related to the musicians on this record," says Levine, "the rhythm section of drummer James Gadson, guitarists Ray Parker, Jr. and Heitor Pereira, bassist Freddie Washington, keyboardists Neil Larsen and the great Joe Sample. It's an amazing group whose experience and rapport with this music matches Aaron's."

"This is a strange moment in my career," muses Aaron. "Since Katrina I've devoted months and months to benefit concerts-and that's been a blessing. My profile and the profiles of my brothers have been raised by the storm. People all over the world see us as the face of New Orleans. They want to hear us play. They want to feel that we've survived the storm. They want to be assured that life goes on."

**SONY BMG'S NEWLY LAUNCHED BURGUNDY RECORDS
TO RELEASE BRAND NEW AARON NEVILLE ALBUM
ON SEPTEMBER 19**

**13 SOUL CLASSICS TO FEATURE NEW ORLEANS' FIRST SON
NEVILLE WILL BE JOINED BY SOME OF TODAY'S HOTTEST
RECORDING ARTISTS ON SELECT TRACKS**

(August 14, 2006)--- Burgundy Records' (SONY BMG) first signing, Aaron Neville, completed the recording of his new album, *Bring It On Home...The Soul Classics*.

This is Neville's first Sony BMG release.

Due on September 19, the album comprises 13 all-time soul classics, including Otis Redding's "(Sittin' On) The Dock Of The Bay" and Sam Cooke's "A Change Is Gonna Come," Ben E. King's "Stand By Me" and Bill Withers' "Ain't No Sunshine."

The set also features collaborations with **Chris Botti, Chaka Khan, Dave Sanborn, Mavis Staples** and **Art Neville**.

"Legendary soul classics performed by one of the greatest soul voices of the 20-Century...it doesn't get better than that," says Joe DiMuro, EVP/General Manager of Sony BMG's Burgundy Records (www.burgundyrecords.com). "By putting our own twist on it, we are making these beloved soul classics new again."

Stewart Levine produced the album.

Levine, who has worked with a bevy of platinum selling artists, including Jamie Cullum, Simply Red and BB King, has produced over 10 Grammy-award winning records.

"This is very natural ground for Aaron, as he grew up immersed in the sounds of classic rhythm and blues. It's not a departure or some grand "concept" – it's a very natural fit for him and something he's wanted to do for a very long time," says Levine. "The idea behind the record was simplicity itself. We took these iconic songs and stripped them to their essence. We didn't want Aaron to cover them; we wanted him to redefine them. He did just that."

"I am excited to be a part of Burgundy Records and look forward to giving my existing fans and, hopefully, new fans some brand new music," says Aaron Neville.

New Orleans' "first son" and four-time Grammy® award-winning artist, Neville has a trademark angelic voice and an impressive body of work to go along with it.

The Sony BMG Strategic Marketing Group (SMG) recently launched its new record label, Burgundy Records. The Sony BMG SMG imprint plans to sign legendary multi-platinum artists and release new titles in conjunction with an innovative marketing campaign that will promote the artists through traditional and non-traditional channels.