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The Staple Singers family began performing in the late 1940's, and first recorded in 1953. They consisted of:

Roebuck "Pops" Staples (b. 28 December, 1915, Winona, Mississippi), Cleotha Staples (b. 1934, Chicago), Pervis Staples (b. 1935, Chicago), Yvonne Staples (b. 1939, Chicago) and Mavis Staples (b. 1940, Chicago).

The quintet created an original style of Gospel music, utilising Mavis' striking voice against Pop's lighter tenor, and delta bluesstyle guitar playing.

Pop's stayed in a day job in Chicago working in the steel mills until Mavis graduated from high school in 1957, at which time the Staple Singers began touring all over the US. They were known at the time as the "first family of gospel", and had many hits in the early 50's on the United, Vee Jay and Riverside labels including "Uncloudy Day", "Will The Circle Be Unbroken", "I'm Coming Home", "Stand By Me", "Swing Low Sweet Chariot", and "This May Be The Last Time", which was recorded by the Rolling Stones as their single "The Last Time". During the early part of the 60's the group tried to broaden its scope, recording inspirational songs with a positive message such as "Why Am I Treated So Bad" and "For What It's Worth". They were criticised for leaving Gospel music and becoming secular, however their popularity continued to grow, especially with their signing to the Stax label in 1967, and they soon regained their popularity with Gospel music fans. Pervis left the group in 1971, and Yvonne joined.

They had smash hits at Stax including "I'll Take You There" (US Pop #1, 1972) and "If You're Ready (Come Go With Me)".

They moved to Curtis Mayfield's Curtom label in 1975 and hit with "Let's Do It Again" (US #1) and "Ease On Down The Road".

The Staple Singers have continued to record and perform in concert to this day.

Let's Do It Again **AIM 1064 CD**

- 1. Let's Do It Again
- 2. (If You're Ready) **Come Go With Me**
- 3. Why Am I Treated So Bad
- 4. Will The Circle Be Unbroken
- 5. He's Alright
- 6. Reach Out Touch A Hand
- 7. This May Be The Last Time
- 8. Ain't That Good News
- 9. Swing Low Sweet Chariot
- 10. God's Wonderful Love
- 11. I'm Coming Home
- 12. Stand By Me
- 13. Ease On Down The Road

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