

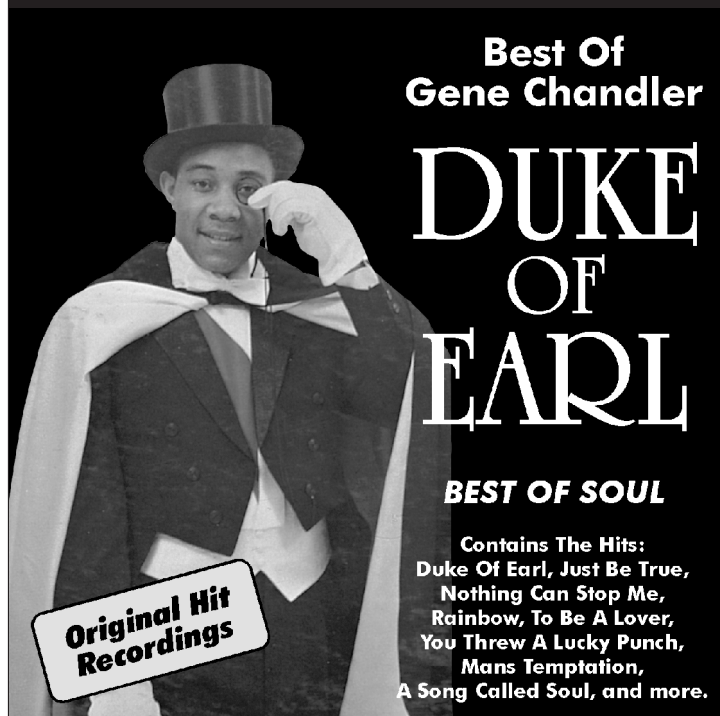


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## AVAILABLE NOW



Gene Chandler had more than 25 Soul Pop Hits in the 1960's and 70's. He was born Eugene Dixon in Chicago on July 6, 1937 and named himself after the actor Jeff Chandler.

Gene Chandler began his music career as lead singer of the Dukays in the late 50's. The Dukays were a Doo Wop vocal harmony group that began its recording career in 1961, and progressively became more influenced by Soul Music and Gospel Styles. "Duke Of Earl" (USA #1, 1962) was recorded by The Dukays on the NAT label and subsequently sold to The Vee Jay label who released the song as by "Gene Chandler", having made the decision to back him as a solo artist.

Another Dukays recording on this compilation is "The Big Lie."

"Duke Of Earl" is a memorable Rock 'n' Roll hit, however it is the soul style of Gene Chandler, especially when he sings falsetto that propels "Duke Of Earl" to a level where it has been hailed as one of the great proto-soul records.

Vee Jay had Chandler release a couple of "Duke Of Earl" soundalikes such as "Walk On With The Duke", which failed to hit, and Chandler then began to release R&B, Soul tracks beginning with "Tear For Tear" in late 1962. Then came Chandler's response to Mary Wells "You Beat Me To The Punch" song "You Threw A Lucky Punch" and its flip side, the Curtis Mayfield ballad "Rainbow", the song where soul music fans embraced him. Chandler then moved to the Constellation label and it was the next Mayfield written release "Man's Temptation" in 1963 where Chandler perfected his intense but mellow soul style of which it has been said that to truly appreciate Gene Chandler is to know what "Soul" is in Soul Music.

The singles "It's No Good For Me", Mayfields "Think Nothing About It", and "A Song Called Soul" followed over the next year and were modest hits.

It was Gene Chandler's next 3 releases in 1964 that established him as a genuine, soul music superstar. "Just Be True" (Mayfield), "Bless Our Love" (not included in this collection) and "What Now" (Mayfield) all went top 10.

In 1965 he had 5 records in the charts including "You Can't Hurt Me No More", "Nothing Can Stop Me", "(Gonna Be) Good Times" and "Here Come The Tears".

Chandler had lesser hits in 1966 including "Bet You Never Thought", "(I'm Just A) Fool For You" and "I Can Take Care Of Myself."

By mid 1966 Constellation closed its doors. Chandler went on to record for the Brunswick, Checker, Mercury and Chi-Sound labels.

## Best Of Gene Chandler DUKE OF EARL

### AIM 2021 CD

1. Duke Of Earl
2. Just Be True
3. Tear For Tear
4. You Threw A Lucky Punch
5. Rainbow
6. Man's Temptation
7. It's No Good For me
8. Think Nothing About It
9. A Song Called Soul
10. What Now
11. You Can't Hurt Me No More
12. Nothing Can Stop Me
13. (Gonna Be) Good Times
14. The Big Lie
15. Nite Owl
16. Daddy's Home
17. I Wake Up Crying
18. Baby That's Love
19. London Town
20. You Left Me
21. Miracle After Miracle
22. Festival Of Love
23. Stand By Me
24. Check Yourself

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