

Franklin Vanderbilt was born playing the drums. Raised on Chicago's west side, Royal Prince Franklin Vanderbilt, was influenced by his grandfather's gospel band and played in church and school bands. By the time he was in his teens he was being mentored by a host of legendary Jazz and blues musicians. His music education continued when he attended Eastern Illinois University under the renowned percussion professor, Johnny Lee Lane. Simultaneously Franklin made a living by teaching private lessons by day and fronting his own band by night. During this time Mr. Gregg Parker, one of the most influential Chicago rock and blues guitarists (currently the CEO and founder of the Chicago Blues Museum), discovered Franklin and took him under his wing and encouraged him to play rock and roll. Soon after, Vanderbilt's professional career began with the Vegas Jazz great Ghallib Ghalab which eventually morphed into a worldwide touring experience with Liquid Soul. He held a two and a half year drum seat with Chaka Khan, toured with fusion jazz pioneer Stanley Clarke & Richie Kotzen, and recorded with Billy Sheehan. Vanderbilt also played with the legendary Stevie Wonder. Since 2007, he has been touring worldwide with Lenny Kravitz. Franklin, also a singer/songwriter, lives life to the fullest by staying passionate about life, music and love.