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FROM : SHARLENE VERSFELD PROMOTIONS!! FAX NO. : 031 3683316

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*Sharlene Versfeld & Illa Thomprson
Publicity Matters
tel: 3683316
or c/o Workshop Prison*

DEAR FRIEND,

WE NEED YOUR HELP !!!

On Friday 24 May at noon, Sharlene and Illa are going to be "arrested" and locked away in prison for an hour or so. We are going to need your help to bail us out!!

The reason being is that we are assisting **the Cancer Association** in their fund raising drive. Together with **the Workshop Shopping Centre**, they are "arresting" a whole bunch of people over the next couple of days and holding them in a special "cell" until they have raised bail to be released.

East Coast Radio are involved - their DJs are also getting locked away. Those who are not imprisoned, will be announcing who is in jail and who is helping them to raise bail.

We have offered ourselves as jail bait for this worthy cause. Illa is getting Sharlene arrested as she is too short, and Sharlene is getting Illa arrested for being too tall. We have no idea what our bail will be set at - the judges will decide!!

Please phone through any pledges to get us released. You will need to phone between 12 noon and 1pm on Friday 24 May and the number to call is (031) 305 7091.

Thank you!!!

Regards

Sharlene and Illa

Dave Marks set to cut album at last

DAILY NEWS, THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 1997

PETER FELDMAN

IT'S ironic. David Marks, whose "protest" songs in the sixties and seventies were banned by the SABC, returned last week to this hallowed institution to record his first solo album in one of its studios.

Here was the curly-haired singer and songwriter, clad in his "Durban gear" of blue T-shirt, surfer shorts and blue and white power sneakers, producing the very music that had angered the old guard. Marks was always an outspoken critic of apartheid, I remember, and of the South African music industry.

Time has not tempered his values. The Durban-based Marks remains one of South Africa's most successful songwriters and producers, having written such classic songs as *Master Jack*, *Mountains of Men* and *Fairygold*.

But an interesting facet of his 30-year career is that although he has performed his songs in many venues, and has recorded, mixed and produced for numerous acts, he has never cut a disc himself.

I asked him why. "I've had opportunities through the years to do records, starting as early as 69," he says, "but I've always had a problem." Although he didn't mind the songs he wrote and he enjoyed other people's interpretations of them, he had a problem hearing his own voice on tape.

"I just don't like the way I sing my songs." Marks has never stopped playing, even though nowadays it's more likely to be in

front of his family. "I find music very therapeutic," he confides.

His attitude to recording changed after the Standard Bank National Festival of the Arts in Grahamstown two years ago. He produced a show called *Songs and Stories From A Rocking Chair*, which featured songs from the past plus a collection of new material, and it was a highly acclaimed venture.

Then he began thinking about a record, an idea suggested to him by executive producer Rael Birns. Another idea was to utilise the talents of people he had worked with over the years, musicians such as Manfred Mann, Joseph Tshabalala, Steve Newman and Tony Cox.

He explains: "It was going to be a compilation of various people doing my songs. But that would have been very costly and disjointed." He decided, instead, to record the songs himself and embellish the project with contributions from more than 50 musicians.

It's a veritable who's who of the music world from Koos Kombuis to Kenny Henson and from Spho Mchunu to Matt Hurter. To highlight this diversity we find such names as Four Jacks and a Jill - they had a major world hit with *Master Jack* - Hugh Masekela, Gene Rockwell, Ian Lawrence, Anton Goosen, Barney Rachabane, Nico Carstens and American wordsmith Shawn Phillips.

The album, to be called *The Hidden Years*, will reflect 30 years of music making.