



VESTA WILLIAMS

VESTA (\$8.98)

A&M SP/CS/CD 5118

Ship date: Sept. 22

Street date: Sept. 29

SINGLE RELEASE/PLAN: "SOMETHING ABOUT YOU"

AM 2880 (7-inch)

SP number TBD (12-inch)

BLACK/URBAN Workdate:

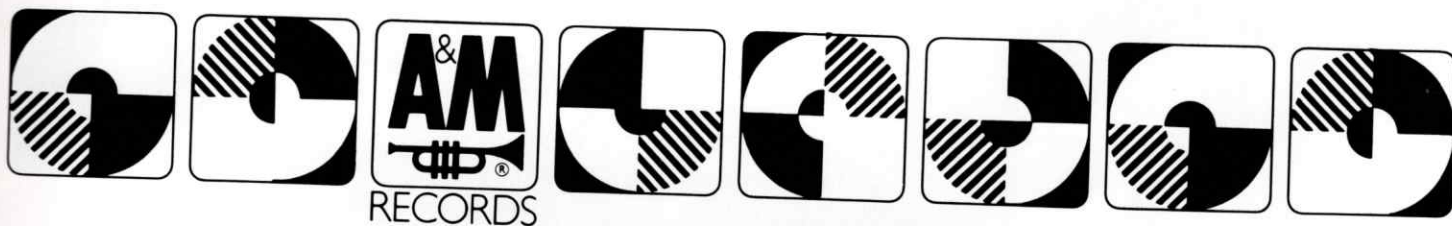
DANCE Workdate:

CHR Workdate:

Sept. 10

Sept. 10

TBD



JOHN McCLAIN ON VESTA:

"As a woman, Vesta's real and aggressive, powerful and witty: a real 'manual transmission'. As a voice, she's so multi-dimensional, she can sing 'On My Own'—both the Patti LaBelle and the Michael McDonald parts.

I think she's the new artist of the year. Song for song, her album's consistent enough to pull any track as a single. The only problem is where do we get the B-sides?"

VESTA ON HER INFLUENCES:

"I truly believe I was conscious of music in the womb. There are a lot of things I do that I shouldn't know how to. My mother listened to a lot of Aretha and Sarah Vaughan. My father—the first black DJ in Coshocton, Ohio—got so good he moved to L.A.'s KGFJ."

VESTA LEARNS THE ROPES:

"I didn't even go to my high school prom because I was gigging. It was quite an education. I've toured and recorded with Jeffrey Osborne, Chaka Khan, Bobby Womack, The Commodores, Ray Parker—as well as Julio Iglesias, Christopher Cross and Gordon Lightfoot. I just worked on the new Lone Justice album with producer Steve Van Zandt."

VESTA ON HER OWN:

"At background singer auditions, I always got the job. But I always felt I should be out front. If you don't give me the chance, I take it. This is the most exciting time in my life, in all my—how old am I now?—25 years!"

THE PRODUCERS:

Eight tracks were supervised by producers who are also artists:

Bryan "Lollipop Love" Loren, a newly-signed A&M act who previously produced Meli'sa Morgan as well as himself; and

Billy Valentine, the Valentine Brothers member who co-wrote the current Simply Red hit "Money's Too Tight (To Mention)."

Jeremy Lubbock who worked with Chicago on "Hard Habit To Break" joins Bryan and Billy on Vesta's "It's You" track.

Sylvers arranger David Crawford cut the album's last two tracks.

THE FIRST SINGLE & LEAD TRACKS:

The first single "SOMETHING ABOUT YOU" shows off Vesta's power-pipes to spine-tingling uptempo effect. Follow-up possibilities include "Sweet Thang," "Once Bitten Twice Shy" and "Get Out Of My Life."

THE OPPORTUNITY:

Starting from a Black/Urban base as strong as her voice, Vesta deserves to be heard on the dance floor as well as pop radio.