

Red Stone Muziq is an acclaimed Southern California-based live cover band recognized for their high-energy performances of classic R&B, funk, soul, disco, pop, and dance hits. Founded by producer Max Viana Laboriel and drummer Tre' Balfour, the group has earned a strong reputation as one of the premier party and event bands in the region.

Founder Max Viana Laboriel has deep roots in a famous musical family and past Grammy-nominated production work.

Versatile Setlists: Their deep repertoire bridges generations, featuring precise, authentic covers of top 40 favorites ranging from the 1970s, 1980s, 1990s to today.

The Origins & History

The band was formed after co-founder Max Viana Laboriel was seeking to create a versatile ensemble capable of connecting families and generations through music, he partnered with prominent drummer Tre' Balfour to establish Red Stone Muziq.

The band achieved a historic milestone during its first year together. They became the first live cover band in history to sign a formal recording contract with major distribution, landing a record deal under the **Thump/Universal Music Group** label.

Musical Pedigree & Production Roots

The band's exceptional standard of performance is driven by the industry background of its leadership:

- **The Laboriel Legacy:** Band leader Max Viana Laboriel was born into the legendary Laboriel musical family. This iconic lineage includes his uncle, legendary bassist Abraham Laboriel, his cousin, world-renowned drummer Abraham Laboriel Jr. (longtime drummer for Paul McCartney), and producer Matteo Laboriel, other iconic family members includes hip-hop pioneer DJ Evil-E (longtime DJ for Ice-T), record executive Hen-Gee, Latin American singer Johnny Laboriel, and daughter the smooth R&B singer Arin Watley niece of R&B/Pop Icon & grammy winner Jody Watley and uncle legendary Aundre Cymone.

Extended Production Background & Extended Family Tree

Founder Max Viana Laboriel's musical background goes much deeper than standard covers. **Grammy & Platinum Production Background:** Long before forming the cover group, Max was a prominent producer and songwriter aligned with the platinum 1990s production groups Spydaman and Freeze Productions. He contributed directly to a

string of era-defining R&B and hip-hop hits, including chart-toppers like "Poison" by Bell Biv DeVoe (BBD) and "I Wanna Sex You Up" by Color Me Badd just name a few.

His Part & Co-Founder **Tre' Balfour**

(often stylized on stage as **3re**) is an accomplished touring drummer, percussionist, and co-founder of [Red Stone Muziq](#). Known for his dynamic rhythm and highly engaging stage presence, he has spent decades working alongside some of the biggest names in the mainstream pop, jazz, and R&B industries.

Marching and Education: At eight years old, he began marching for the American Legionnaires Drum Corps in Maryland, later joining the Continental Ambassadors Drum & Bugle Corps in Wichita, Kansas. He formally transitioned to the drum set in high school, studying under prominent Oklahoma percussion mentors K. Dean Walker and Paul Bowman, before majoring in music performance at Langston University.

Industry Touring & Collaborations

Balfour is a highly sought-after industry session player and touring artist. His distinct style relies on heavily blending complex hand-percussion grooves directly into solid drum-set backbeats. Throughout his professional career, he has toured or recorded with prominent acts including:

- **Michael Bolton**
- **Color Me Badd**
- **Gladys Knight**
- **All-4-One**
- **Kashif**
- **Disneyland's Official "Lion King" Parade**

Musical Directing & Education

Beyond the stage, Balfour has served as the musical director and producer for comedic musician Jay Lamont under Sweet Success Records.

Dedicated to giving back to the musical community, he stepped into a prominent educator role at Little Rock High School in Palmdale, California. Under his guiding educational philosophy of *"Life Through Drumming & Drumming Through Life,"* his indoor marching percussion ensembles and drumlines have claimed numerous regional competition trophies.

Gear Affiliations/Endorsement

As an elite player, his distinct live sound is endorsed and supported by premier industry drum brands. He is recognized as an official roster artist for [Remo Drumheads](#), [Paiste Cymbals](#), and Dynasty Percussion.

Red Stone Muziq's Full Personnel Lineup

Red Stone Muziq features a stacked 7-piece lineup of seasoned vocalists and instrumentation specialists:

- **Max Viana Laboriel (Hi):** Lead Vocals, Band Leadership, & Musical Director
- **Tre' Balfour (3re):** Drums & Percussion
- **Craig McLaughlan (Cmac):** Lead Vocals
- **Ronnie Paul (Pootie):** Lead Vocals & On-Stage Entertainment
- **Jonathan Flores (Gmale):** Keyboards
- **Jailen Blayne Handy (Migi):** Guitar
- **Scott Allen (Bugs):** Bass Guitar

Deep Setlist Repertoire

The group is praised for providing clean, family-friendly sets that maintain maximum groove. Their deep performance catalog covers legendary names across several genres:

- **Funk & Soul:** Earth, Wind & Fire, Maze featuring Frankie Beverly, and Prince
- **R&B & Pop Classics:** Lionel Richie, New Edition, and Bruno Mars

Venues & Public Performances

Red Stone Muziq is highly active across Southern California regional festivals, casino circuits, corporate events, and public concert series.