

Martins

(Touring in 2006)

The Martins' impact on the Christian music industry has been widely unique and accepted, yet the industry has been unable to appropriately identify their style. Rather than resting in a single niche among the numerous Christian music genres, The Martins have rummaged freely through a stack of style books, grabbing whatever interests them. Sometimes the different elements are unaltered and traditional, but more often they are tossed into the trio's musical blender so that a new -- and exceedingly tasty -- mixture emerges. The result has been labeled simply as "Martin Music".

While each of the vocalists grew up firmly and proudly planted in the Southern Gospel tradition, it is not surprising that as they have matured, a broad range of influences have entered their musical mix. Billboard Magazine describes The Martins as, "breaking down walls and blurring the lines that separate Southern Gospel from Inspiration, Adult Contemporary, and other popular Christian music formats." The trio is now touring in support of their latest Spring Hill Music release, *Glorify Edify Testify*.

This project showcases the trademark harmonies that The Martins have become known for, and offers a satisfying taste for every musical palate, ranging from innovative and refashioned hymn arrangements to contemporary songs of praise and worship. "There's a lot of variety in our repertoire now," says Joyce. "But it's still very recognizably us. " After many years of music ministry, and traveling down some of life's toughest paths, The Martins have garnered six Dove awards and a Grammy nomination to become one of Christian music's most critically acclaimed and best-selling vocal groups.

These artists have showcased their stunning and distinctive harmonies before a vast array of audiences, ranging from Bill Gaither's award-winning Homecoming Video and Concert Series to the White House for a televised concert with President and First Lady Bush, called "Celebrating America's Musical Heritage". But, perhaps one of their biggest accomplishments is the fact that regardless of their environment, whether performing at historic venues like Carnegie Hall in New York or sharing the platform at crusades with a hero like Billy Graham, The Martins can be seen portraying their usual persona of being identifiable and approachable – in a word, real.

Regardless of their circumstances, they haven't forgotten from where they have come, and are still trusting God to take them where He wants them to go.