

## Clement Seymour Dodd 'Sir Coxson'



**True Tribute Organization** recognizes and acknowledges the invaluable contributes of Mr. Dodd. Among all the contributors to the genesis, evolution and development of Jamaican music, Mr. Dodd and Studio One will always be the vanguard. He possessed an exceptional ability to distinguish and organize structures in sound. With no formal training in music, he was able to convey his ideas to his elite set of musicians, who reciprocated their talents to manifest them into rhythms, beats, melodies, harmonies, vibrations, and variations of sounds, to create Jamaica's invaluable contributions to the world in its generic forms Ska, Rock Steady, Reggae, and Dance Hall music. His passion, determination, and dedication profoundly influenced the innovations in Jamaican music culture and brought forth the Jamaican Music Experience.

Mr. Dodd was uncompromising in maintaining a certain degree of standards, professionalism, and respect for the type of music produced by Studio One through which he propelled his establishment to the pinnacle of the Jamaican music fraternity. He assisted in launching the careers of the "who is who" of Jamaican music domestically and internationally. He was honored by the Government with the Order of Distinction in 1991, the Prime Minister's Independence Gala in 2002, and the renaming of Brentford Road, in Kingston as Studio One Boulevard. He died on May 04, 2004.

According to former, Prime Minister, the Most Honorable P.J. Patterson, PC, QC, MP, "Through the contributions of persons like Sir Coxson, Jamaica is recognized worldwide as the undisputed mecca of popular music. The contribution of Sir Coxson and other pioneers of the Jamaican recording industry must be measured not only in terms of the vast economic opportunities it opened up for our country directly and indirectly, but also in terms of its profound influence on the development of the special Jamaican sense of self and certainty of our unique cultural identity."

Additionally, former Prime Minister, The Most Honorable Edward Seaga O.M.P.C. said, "It takes courage to believe that we as a small island could compete successfully with our enormous neighbor to the north on any cultural level. It takes commitment to stick with that idea through the lean, early years and guide it to the stage where it emerges as a phenomenal international success. What Dodd has done is not only significant in terms of the music that he has produced, but also in terms of his mission to show the rest of the world that we had the capacity to match much larger nations on a cultural basis."

Mr. Dodd's initiatives and contributions have provided boundless opportunities, and created potential pathways from which many have benefitted, within the diaspora, at home, and exhibited Jamaica as a beacon of hope for future generations.

Written by: LeRoy Graham Jr.