

Wednesday's woman

Tony and Daytime Emmy Award Winner Lillias White beckons you to forget your troubles and 'Get Yourself Some Happy!'

By Audrey J. Bernard

"I want people to see you (with your earbuds in) smiling—and wonder what you're listening to. I hope you go out and get yourself some happy!" – Lillias White

Long before there were dee-vine divas like Jennifer Hudson, Whitney Houston, Jennifer Holliday, etc. there was the prototypical performer Lillias White who could do it all! From the stage to live appearances to screen, this consummate singer has long been favored by picky music lovers who respect her authentic prowess and ability to entertain without

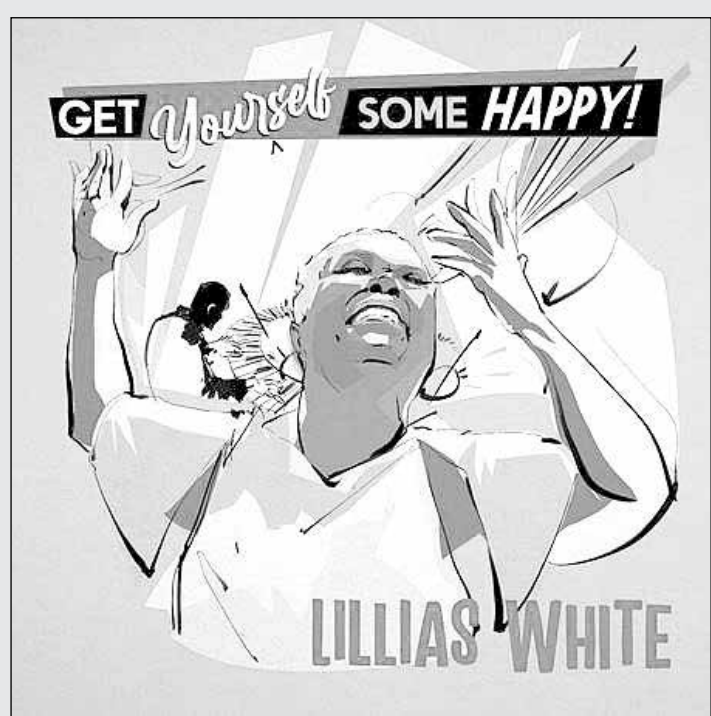
compromising the writer's sentiment.

White is internationally-recognized for her work on both stage and screen. Her performance in Cy Coleman's Broadway musical, *The Life*, won her the Tony Award for Best Featured Actress in a Musical. She was nominated for a second Tony Award for her brilliant work in *Fela!* Additional Broadway credits include: *Barnum*, *Dreamgirls*, *Cats*, *Carrie*, *Once on This Island*, *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and *Chicago*.

White received the Daytime Emmy Award for her role as Lillian Edwards for Outstanding Performer in a Children's Series



Lillias White



Get Yourself Some Happy! – A shot of good medicine

As we emerge from our pandemic throes this is just what the doctor ordered – a shot of good medicine. White sings to your heart which will surely bring you out of any self-imposed slump. This album is medicine for the soul and a smile for the heart. So come and *Get Yourself Some Happy!* The fun tracklist includes: *When You Wish Upon A Star*, *Accentuate the Positive*, *Happy Together*, *A Brand New Me*, *Put On A Happy Face*, *The Twist*, *A Little Imagination*, *You're My Best Friend*, *You've Made Me So Very Happy*, *Yes, That's All*, *Make Someone Happy*, *It's Not Where You Start*, and *Get Happy*. Get a sneak peek of "You've Made Me So Very Happy" [HERE](#). Pre-order the album [HERE](#)

on *Sesame Street* in 1992, and is beloved by audiences around the world for voicing the lead muse Calliope in Disney's animated feature *Hercules*. White received unanimous acclaim for her work in the Carnegie Hall Concert version of *South Pacific*, starring Reba McEntire, which was broadcast on PBS' *Great Performances*. Recent TV credits include the Baz Luhrmann-directed NETFLIX series *The Get Down*, *Russian Doll* and *Search Party*. She has appeared in cabarets and concert halls around the world, including The Kennedy Center, Carnegie Hall and Lincoln Center.

Her army of fans has been waiting for new music. Enter Joshua Sherman Productions who is thrilled to announce the upcoming release of White's highly anticipated first solo studio album, *Get Yourself Some Happy!*, out July 23, 2021 via Old Mill Road Recording. Described by *The New York Times* as a "one-of-a-kind performer who combines the sass of a classic blues mama with the skill of a Broadway star," White is internationally recognized for her glorious voice and extraordinary ability

to faithfully communicate the heart of a song.

This is an album with something for everyone. You will get your money's worth with this modern mix of Motown, Standards, Rock-and-Roll, Broadway, and Jazz – all re-invented for today's audiences. Centering on the theme of happiness, the titles range from the soulful "When You Wish Upon a Star" to a lightning-fast "The Twist" to a raw "Happy Together" to a sweet and tender version of "You're My Best Friend." White's disco-inspired, orchestral "You've Made Me So Very Happy" will inspire dancing, and her tropical "Put on a Happy Face" will make listeners grin from ear to ear.

Recorded and mixed in July 2019 at Old Mill Road Recording in East Arlington, Vermont, 'Get Yourself Some Happy!' is the culmination of a 30-year friendship and professional collaboration between White and her musical director/accompanist, Timothy Graphenreed. Best known for his arrangements on the iconic musical, *The Wiz*, Timothy tragically passed away on March 1, 2020. The album is dedicated to his memory.

Get Yourself Some Happy! is produced by Joshua Sherman and engineered by GRAMMY Award Winner Benjamin J. Arrindell. The two men won the coveted NAMM TEC Award for Best Studio Design in January 2020.

"This recording, *Get Yourself Some Happy!*, is a labor of love put together by the late, great Timothy Graphenreed, Dr. Joshua Sherman, and myself," said White. "It was a joy to create. The songs were handpicked and heartfelt—and we hope the album brings smiles to your faces. I want people to see you (with your earbuds in) smiling—and wonder what you're listening to. I hope you go out and get yourself some happy!"

"Lillias is an inspiring human being with an unmatched ability to raise the spirits of an audience," adds producer Joshua Sherman. "Stop what you're doing. Forget your troubles, and *Get Yourself Some Happy!*"

If you want to *Get Yourself Some Happy!* Live, White will appear August 12-14 at The Green Room 42 in New York City.