

Sweet Soul Music

(Arthur Conley)

Do you like good music?
Huh, that sweet soul music
Just as long as it's swinging
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah

Way out here on the floor, ya'll
Ah, going to a go-go
Dancing with the music
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah

Spotlight on Lou Rawls, ya'll
Ah, don't he look boss, ya'll
Singing 'Love's a Hurtin Thing', yall
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah

Spotlight on Sam and Dave, ya'll
Oh, don't they look great y'all?
Singing, 'Hold On I'm Coming'
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah

Spotlight on Wilson Pickett, now
That wicked Wilson Pickett
Singing, 'Mustang Sally'
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah

Spotlight on Otis Redding, now
Singing 'Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa'
'Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa'
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah
Get it Otis

Spotlight on James Brown, ya'll
He's the king of them all, ya'll
He's the king of them all, ya'll
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah

Do ya like good music?
That sweet soul music
Just long as it's swinging
Oh, yeah
Oh, yeah

I got to get the feeling
I got to get the feeling
Do ya like good music?
That sweet soul music
Help me get the feeling
I want to get the feeling
Otis Redding's got the feeling

James Brown he got the feeling
Oh, I love good music

"Sweet Soul Music" is a soul song, first released by Arthur Conley in 1967. Written by Conley and Otis Redding, it is based on the Sam Cooke song "Yeah Man" from his posthumous album Shake; the opening riff is a quote from Elmer Bernstein's score for the 1960 movie The Magnificent Seven.

It reached the number two spot on both the Billboard Hot 100 and the Billboard R&B chart and number 7 on the UK Singles Chart. J. W. Alexander, Sam Cooke's business partner, sued both Redding and Conley for appropriating the melody. A settlement was reached in which Cooke's name was added to the writer credits, and Otis Redding agreed to record some songs in the future from Kags Music, a Cooke–Alexander enterprise.

The song is an homage to soul music. The following songs are mentioned in the lyrics:

"Going to a Go-Go", by the Miracles;

"Love Is a Hurtin' Thing", by Lou Rawls

"Hold On, I'm Comin'", by Sam & Dave

"Mustang Sally", by Wilson Pickett

"Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa-Fa", by Otis Redding. A brief instrumental version of the chorus for the song is quoted, after Conley says, "Hit it, Otis".

Additionally, James Brown is described as "the king of them all".

At the end of the song, Arthur Conley sings, "Otis Redding got the feeling."