

The Spotlight section of *Remember When Magazine* is designed to introduce you to many unrecorded groups. These are multi-talented artists recreating sounds of the 50's & 60's and in some cases almost duplicating the originals. Some are in studios making recordings of their own and are greatly responsible for keeping the music of a generation alive!



Spotlight on... *Somewhere In Time*

A local group of five guys with a passion to sing acapella, and a history dating back as far as 1954, when Doug Wells, also known as "Mr. Bass Man" signed up with "The Valtones" who throughout the early 50's tore up Long Island clubs with R&B music. Doug's success enabled him to share the stage with groups such as "The Cadillacs" and "The Valentines". He later chose a career with Brookhaven Town. While attending a political gathering and still holding a pounding love for music in his heart, he got together with three guys who, shortly after, put together a group known as "The Tremonts". This group went on to sing out to the community at many charity benefits and political campaigns under the lead vocals of "Mr. Bob Chiaperino". Singing baritone for the "Tremonts" was a guy named Dennis Calichio, a.k.a. "Dengy", a Long Islander, with an obsession for singing doowop. Dengy, a fireman, started his music career back in 1971 with brother firemen putting together some sweet harmony, singing in the painted stone stairwells of the Hagerman Firehouse, just the right place to get a good sounding echo. Who knew that Dengy and second tenor, Lou Valentino (also a fireman) would go on to sing together for many years and become "The Tremonts". Lou Valentino, a.k.a. "Louie Val", had a fabulous second tenor voice that originated out of Red Hook, Brooklyn, where in the 50's he was a part of an acapella group called "Hick Street". They too would sing their hearts out in the echo filled hallways of P.S. 129 and later filled the streets with a unique and fabulous acapella sound to be heard weekly on the corner of Hick Street and Sackett. Lou knew then this would become a love of his life and would always be a part of him. Moving to Long Island in the early 60's Lou joined the local fire department which gave him the perfect opportunity to seek out some new talent hoping to form a new group. That's when he met Dengy and became a part of the "Tremonts".

Suddenly, Bobby Chiaperino was stricken with a health problem that would result in a search for a new lead singer. They wondered if they'd ever find a replacement who could fill his shoes. As word got out, a gentleman by the name of **George DeMatteis** appeared out of nowhere with a lead voice in search of a harmony background **George** originally from Brooklyn, had a unique inherited musical talent that stemmed back to his elementary school days where he sang in a group called "**Happy Daze**". This continued throughout his high school years. Later he became lead singer of "The Dimensions", then formed a group called "**Soundtrack**". But with an overwhelming desire to sing acapella, they regrouped as the "Emerald Five", successfully singing in local clubs strictly 50's/ 60's doowop. As years went by, the group disbanded and Chris went on a search again for a background group to accent his voice. He connected with the "Tremonts", who would later change their name to "**Somewhere In Time**". Searching to further enhance their new sound, Doug Wells, inquired within his work force and found out that there was a gentleman named Doug Rodriguez with overflowing talent as a first tenor. Doug Wells pursued it. Well, Mr. Doug Rodriguez a.k.a. "Duggie Doowop" was ready and willing and just what the group needed. Doug's career in singing started back in the 50's where he and his group pioneered the sounds of Latin soul rhythm music sung in the English language. Doug was so successful and talented that he took his group and R&B sounds around the country to millions of listeners. The group was known as none other than "The Latin Soul Singers". Doug went on to become a part of many other famous groups such as "The Rialto's" ("It Hurts") "The Knockouts" ("I Got A Woman") "The Celebrities" ("I Want You"), "The Chosen Few" ("Every Time -You Look At Me"). He has shared the stage with some of the industry's legends such as: Ray Charles, Tito Puente, Gladys Knight & The Pips, The Clovers and more. Needless to say, Doug joined "**Somewhere In Time**" and, once again, is proving to be successful. They have been performing throughout Long Island doing benefits for children, political campaigns and more! Appropriately named, this group of five guys will do their share to keep the sounds of the 50's going and reserve a place for this music, "**Somewhere In Time!**"

