



James Rone c/o The Robinson Caruso Organization
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To Whom It May Concern:

Enclosed, you will find the press kit for The Robinson Caruso Organization, a 11-piece R&B/Soul band from the Twin Cities of Minnesota. This kit includes the following items:

- A copy of *The Love Debt EP*, by The Robinson Caruso Organization
- A biography of the Robinson Caruso Organization
- A fact sheet about the Robinson Caruso Organization
- Photographs of the Robinson Caruso Organization

If you are downloading this press kit from our website, please contact James Rone at robinsoncarusoorganization@gmail.com for a physical copy of *The Love Debt EP*.

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Robinson Caruso Organization Biography

In the wee hours of a 2008 morning, while sitting half-awake on the bed of a cheap hotel room paid for by a touring children's theatre, James Rone started a MySpace page for a band that didn't yet exist.

Since his childhood in Bristol, England, where his mother would play Motown records while cleaning the house, soul music loomed large in James's life. As a student in Columbia, Missouri, he hosted a show on college station KCOU devoted entirely to soul music of the 1960s and 1970s. The show, "A Change Is Gonna Come," spawned an old school Soul/R&B dance night at a former goth hangout in downtown Columbia.

After James's sister developed vocal nodes while on a Broadway tour of *Hairspray*, her new voice was a little more Dusty Springfield than Kristin Chenoweth. James wrote a song for her to sing, inspired by Aretha Franklin's easy-swinging *Aretha Now* album. He liked it so much that he kept it for himself. And then he wrote 14 more of them.

But surely he couldn't sing them himself. As a bespectacled and pale arts administrator, soul music felt beyond his reach as an artist. And so the alter-ego of Robinson Caruso, the son of Wilson Pickett and an albino gazelle, was born.

When more than an album's worth of material had been written, Robinson placed an ad in the *City Pages* classified section. After a lengthy wait, a response came from Gary Miller, a self-admitted old fart who had played jazz, rock, and soul bass for years with Lucky Town and members of Sounds of Blackness before taking a day job in insurance. Gary brought with him "Baby Jake" Torkelson, who lived life as touring blues guitarist before settling into his own day job.

Next came Marc Bohn, a career drummer (Ross William Perry, Renee Austin, Rockie Lynne, Mick Sterling), then the horn section and the backing singers, drawn from acquaintances in the Twin Cities' improv comedy scene and co-workers at CLIMB Theatre.

When a handful of weekend shows at The Fine Line and Lee's Liquor Lounge drew sizeable crowds, the Robinson Caruso Organization recruited keyboardist Andrew Crowley (Fat Tuesday, Nye's Polonaise Room) and began a monthly residency at Honey, a new nightclub in Minneapolis.

The Robinson Caruso Organization will release its first EP of original material, *The Love Debt EP* at a release party on January 8, 2011 at The Fine Line Music Café in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

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Robinson Caruso Fact Sheet

Band name:	The Robinson Caruso Organization
Genre:	R&B/Soul Music
Sounds like:	Jamie Lidell, Aloe Blacc, Aretha Franklin, Donny Hathaway, The Jackson 5, Stevie Wonder, Otis Redding, Brenton Wood.
Based in:	Minneapolis/St. Paul, Minnesota
Formed:	2008
Discography:	<i>Love Debt EP</i> (January 2011)
Band members:	James Rone (lead vocals, songwriting), Gary Miller (bass), “Baby Jake” Torkelson (guitar), Andrew Crowley (keyboards), Marc Bohn (drums), Fred Beukema (trumpet), Brendan Rhys Jones (saxophone), Ben Bussey (trombone), Sheena Janson (backing vocals), Zachary Scot Johnson (backing vocals), James Grigsby (backing vocals)
Notable facts:	Several members of the band are members of the Twin Cities theatre scene. The Robinson Caruso Organization wrote and contributed the song “Baby Won’t You” to the 2010 Sandbox Theatre production <i>Unspeakable Things</i> . The Robinson Caruso Organization plays every month at Honey in Minneapolis.
Press Quotes:	“Irrepressibly joyous” – Metromix “The kind of soul music that is meant to turn a crowd into a community” – The Examiner

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@ Honey, October, 2010 – Photograph by Sara Udvig



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