



Sons of Mystro

WINNERS! Best Emerging Artist under 21
(International Reggae and World Music Awards)

*“The band **dazzled** alongside each other, **their chemistry** drawing the crowd out of the shade and into the open lawn, **dancing their way to the stage.**”*

-TropiCult (covering SunFest)

Sons of Mystro is the violin duo of two brothers, Malcolm and Umoja. This violin duo plays over ten different genres of popular music, combining their original compositions and imaginative covers in the live performances.

Since forming as a group in 2010, Sons of Mystro has performed at a variety of events including seven Miami Heat basketball games during the Back in Black promotion basketball season, the Keys To The City Ceremonies, and the ESPN/BCS Championship Party. They opened for The Fray at Sunfest 2016 (Florida’s biggest music festival) and performed at the annual Jazz in the Gardens as part of a stellar line-up that included Fastasia, Kenny “Babyface” and Edmonds, Earth, Wind & Fire.

Reflecting on their Caribbean roots, Sons of Mystro has played, The Grace Jamaican Jerk Festival, Legends Easter Fest, One Love Reggae Fest, Reggae Dancehall Awards, and graced the same stage with reggae and dancehall veterans such as Marcia Griffiths, John Holt, Ken Boothe, Dobby Dobson, Freddie McGregor, Frankie Paul, and more. Many of these artists have expressed amazement at the depth and variety of their musical selections and their innovative and artistic arrangements. They’ve also contributed musically to an episode of the highly successful reality show, *Kourtney and Kim Take Miami* starring the Kardashian sisters.

Sons of Mystro is known for their clever and unique covers that are woven into their original compositions.

Among their earliest influences, is the unique, ground breaking group- Black Violin who have served as mentors. Other influences include Samvel Yervinyan, and Sayaka Katsuki, violinist with Yanni, and also the late, great, Jascha Heifetz who was one of the world’s greatest violinist.

Sons of Mystro is committed to youth education and community outreach, and have been teaching and conducting workshops for young people in their home state.

www.kossontalent.com



**REGGAE STRINGS
SONS OF MYSTRO**

*available on iTunes, Amazon and
wherever music is streamed*

There have been different interpretations of Jamaican pop music over the years. Jazz man Grover Washington Jr covered Marley's Jammin' while country legend Willie Nelson put a twang on songs by Toots and The Maytals.

The McNeish brothers, Malcolm and Umoja, are not as famous. But, as **Sons of Mystro**, they used their violins to rework a number of reggae classics.

This can be heard on Reggae Strings Vol 1, a 14-song album recently released by South Florida's Upstairs Music.

The siblings put their spin on rock steady standards such as Alton Ellis' Breaking Up, Feel Like Jumping by Marcia Griffiths and Gregory Isaacs' lovers rock gem, Red Rose For Gregory.



Malcolm, 21, and 18-year old Umoja were born in South Florida to a Jamaican father and Barbadian mother. They learned to play violin through South Florida's public school system.

While most of their influences are American pop acts, they also have an appreciation for the music of Dennis Brown, Barrington Levy and Half Pint. Sons of Mystro's biggest inspiration, however, is Black Violin, an American hip-hop duo.

"They play different genres on the violin. It opened our eyes that, 'hey, we can do this'," said Malcolm. Umoja agreed. He said they brought their feel to Reggae Strings while "keeping the essence of the original melodies".

Reggae Strings is the fourth in a series of instrumental albums produced by Upstairs Music, an independent label that has been around the South Florida scene for over 20 years.

Operated by producer/music publisher Danny Breakenridge, Upstairs Music has released instrumental albums by saxophonist Tony Greene, keyboardist Mallory Williams and trumpeter Chico Chin in the last two years.

Reggae Strings Vol 1 may be Sons of Mystro's biggest project to date, but they have had a presence on the South Florida beat since June 2010. They performed at the Jazz In The Gardens show in Miami alongside Babyface, Najee and Earth, Wind and Fire.

They also played NBA champions Miami Heat's theme song, Back in Black (originally done by AC/DC) during seven of the team's games that season. Last year, they were part of the Marcia Griffiths and Friends shows in Hollywood (Fort Lauderdale) and Miami.



NEW! Sons of Mystro Wishes You A Violin Christmas (EP)