

= Just Chillin ' =

Just Chillin ' is the fifth studio album by American guitarist and singer Norman Brown , released in July 2002 through Warner Bros. Records . The album was produced by Paul Brown and features guest vocal performances by Miki Howard , Michael McDonald , Chanté Moore and Debi Nova . Guest instrumentalists include Rick Braun , percussionists Lenny Castro and Paulinho da Costa , Jerry Hey , Pino Palladino on bass , James Poyser , and Bill Reichenbach Jr. on trombone . The album contains six tracks written or co @-@ written by Brown , a cover version of Janet Jackson 's " Let 's Wait Awhile " and three additional songs .

In the United States , Just Chillin ' reached peak positions of number 198 on the Billboard 200 , number two on Billboard 's Top Contemporary Jazz Albums chart , number six on the Top Heatseekers chart , number three on the Top Jazz Albums chart and number 50 on the Top R & B Albums chart . In 2003 , the album earned Brown the Grammy Award for Best Pop Instrumental Album .

= = Composition = =

Just Chillin ' , produced by Paul Brown , contains ten tracks totaling approximately 45 minutes in length . The album has a relaxed mood generated by Brown 's " gentle riffs and chords " , a quality continued from his previous studio album Celebration (1999) . Tracks include " light grooving instrumentals " and " unhurried romantic forays " with vocals by Miki Howard , Michael McDonald , Chanté Moore and Debi Nova . Backing vocals are supplied by Maya Azucena and Leela James . According to Brown , these guest vocalists marked his " introduction to vocals " . Guest instrumentalists include : Rick Braun , percussionists Lenny Castro and Paulinho da Costa , Jerry Hey , Pino Palladino on bass , James Poyser , and Bill Reichenbach Jr. on trombone .

" The Feeling I Get " , " Just Chillin ' " , and the Latin @-@ influenced " Dancing in the House " , are all original compositions by Brown ; the latter two are considered moderately upbeat . " Night Drive " , " Won 't You Stay " , and " In My Life " are also credited in part to Brown . " Night Drive " , co @-@ written by Phil Davis , contains a trumpet performance by Braun . In addition to Brown , " Won 't You Stay " was co @-@ written by Vikter Duplaix and James Poyser ; " In My Life " was co @-@ written by Edwin Lugo . The album also includes " Feeling the Way " (Derek Allen , Juanita Wynn) , John Stoddart 's " I Still Believe " , a cover version of Janet Jackson 's " Let 's Wait Awhile " (Melanie Andrews , Jackson , Jimmy Jam , Terry Lewis) , and Christopher Bolden 's " Not Like You Do . "

= = Reception = =

Just Chillin ' received less than favorable critical reception . Allmusic 's Matt Collar awarded the album two out of five stars and noted his preference for Brown 's 1994 studio album After the Storm . Collar thought that Brown incorporated too many programmed drums and " mid @-@ tempo jams " , producing more " urban and gritty " tracks than his other instrumental albums . He compared " The Feeling I Get " to " instrumental Maxwell " and called Janet Jackson 's " Let 's Wait Awhile " a standout track which reflects Brown 's " overall vision to turn jazz to pop and vice versa " . Chris Walker of JazzTimes also noted the album 's laid @-@ back pace (" almost too relaxed ") and thought it lacked Brown 's " trademark zestfulness " . Walker complimented the vocalists ' performances , which produced a " pleasant , soulful aura " , but felt they were " far removed " from Brown . He wrote that " Just Chillin ' " and " Dancing in the House " displayed Brown 's acumen ; Walker also complimented " Night Drive " , in part because of Braun 's trumpet performance , and considered " Let 's Wait Awhile " the highlight of the album . In 2003 , the album earned Brown the Grammy Award for Best Pop Instrumental Album .

= = Track listing = =

Track listing adapted from Allmusic .

= = Personnel = =

Credits adapted from Allmusic .

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , Just Chillin ' reached peak positions of number 198 on the Billboard 200 , number two on Billboard 's Top Contemporary Jazz Albums chart , number six on the Top Heatseekers chart , number three on the Top Jazz Albums chart and number 50 on the Top R & B Albums chart . The album remained on the Billboard 200 for one week , the Top Jazz Albums chart for fifty weeks and the Top R & B Albums chart for eight weeks . In 2003 , Just Chillin ' re @-@ entered the Top Contemporary Jazz Albums chart at number 22 . The May 31 , 2003 issue of Billboard , which featured the annual " Jazz Spotlight " and covered jazz music between the December 7 , 2002 and May 3 , 2003 issues of the magazine , included the album at number eight on its list of the " Top Contemporary Jazz Albums " .