

= King & Queen =

King & Queen is a studio album by American recording artists Otis Redding and Carla Thomas . It is Thomas ' fourth album and Redding 's sixth and the final studio album before his death on December 10 , 1967 . Influenced by Marvin Gaye 's duets , the album features ten covers of soul classics and the eleventh finishing song co @-@ written by Redding .

The album includes crossover hits " Tramp " and " Knock on Wood " . Following Redding 's death , the single " Lovey Dovey " was also released . The original album 's liner notes were written by Tennessee Senator Howard H. Baker , Jr . It was released on March 16 , 1967 , by Stax Records .

= = Background and recording = =

Producer Jim Stewart had the idea to produce a duet album with Otis Redding and Carla Thomas , as he thought it would help their musical careers ' progress , and that " [Redding 's] rawness and [Thomas 's] sophistication would work " well together . Another reason to combine the two artists was in the hopes of achieving a success similar to that which Motown singer Marvin Gaye had with both Tammi Terrell and Kim Weston . Carla Thomas was already successful in the R & B business ; she had already had many singles appear in both the Hot 100 and Hot Rhythm & Blues Singles charts , most recently her 1966 song " B @-@ A @-@ B @-@ Y " . Redding agreed to record with Thomas , simply stating , " Well , hey , you from Memphis , you from Tennessee , you can hang " . At the time the album was recorded in January 1967 , Thomas was studying at Howard University in Washington D.C. for an M.A. in English . Recorded in about six days (another source states only three days) , the album features eleven songs : ten covers of soul classics , and an eleventh song , " Ooh Carla , Ooh Otis " , that Redding co @-@ wrote with Al Bell . It features house band Booker T. & the M.G. ' s , pianist Isaac Hayes , and the brass section The Memphis Horns . Six out of eleven songs were cut during their session ; the rest were overdubbed by Redding in the following days owing to their concert obligations .

= = Release = =

Three singles were released from the album : " Tramp " , the first cut song , was released as a single in April and peaked at number two on Billboard Hot Rhythm & Blues Singles chart and at number twenty @-@ six on Billboard Hot 100 ; " Knock on Wood " peaked in September at number eight on the Hot Rhythm & Blues Singles chart and number thirty on the Hot 100 charts ; and " Lovey Dovey " was released late in 1968 , and charted at number twenty @-@ one on the Hot Rhythm & Blues Singles list and number sixty on the Hot 100 . The album was released on March 16 , 1967 .

= = Retrospective reviews = =

In retrospective reviews King & Queen has gained positive comments . Jason Ankeny of Allmusic gives the album 4 @.@ 5 stars out of 5 . He states that " Redding and Thomas enjoy an undeniable chemistry , and they play off each other wonderfully " , and summarizes the album as follows : " Otis Redding never recorded a lighter , more purely entertaining record than King & Queen " . Robert Christgau gives it an " A- " ; although he says the album was " pretty ephemeral " , he praises the exciting music , and writes that it sounds " vivacious , catchier and funnier [than] most soul music " .

= = Track listing = =

= = Personnel = =

Source : Allmusic

= = Charts = =