



The Inquirer

DAILY NEWS philly.com



21 December 2003

By Dan DeLuca
Inquirer Music Critic

Terence Trent D'Arby, Terence Trent D'Arby's Wildcard! What was the most successful soul-music move of the year? Sorry, Al Green, Joss Stone and Alicia Keys: The winner is D'Arby, the 1980s wunderkind who was swallowed up by pretension in the early 1990s and stuck in record-company limbo in recent years. Lately, he's living in Italy and has recently changed his name to Sananda Maitreya. Whatever works for him. The 41-year-old singer's deep soul rasp and elegant falsetto are still in divine coexistence, and Wildcard! is wildly ambitious without being the least bit ponderous, moving from the banjo-and-horn opener "O Divina" to the futuristic funk of "SRR-636*" to the fragility of "Sweetness." Next to nobody heard Wildcard!, but that doesn't mean it's not great..