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★ STAR LETTER

Parisian legacy

I loved your article about street names in France [November 2011 issue].

FRANCE Magazine is my favourite publication, since my husband and I consider Paris our second home. We are fortunate to have an apartment in the 18th arrondissement that was passed to us from my late sister, Carole Fredericks. An African-American, Carole moved to France in 1979 to pursue a music career. She broke into the popular music scene as a background singer. In 1990, she was catapulted to fame with the French trio, Fredericks Goldman Jones (Jean-Jacques Goldman and Michael Jones).

Carole lived in the 18th arrondissement for most of her 22 years in Paris, 1979 to 2001. She died much too soon in June that year. At the request of the French Minister of Culture, friends and fans,

Carole was buried in Montmartre Cemetery. This link is to her biography: www.cdfmusiclegacy.com. You can imagine my delight last summer when we found a street named after her in Montreuil. We also met one of the residents of Rue Carole Fredericks who explained how it came into being. It seems the residents petitioned the mayor of Montreuil to have their street



named after their favourite singer! He agreed and *voilà!* We are currently in the process of securing a commemorative plaque for the building where she lived for ten years, 91bis Rue du Mont Cenis.

Carole was a music icon and is still very popular in France. After a ten-year hiatus, Sony Legacy Recordings France released *Best Of Carole Fredericks* in November 2011.

In 2003, Carole's musical legacy (songs and music videos), along with her biography were transformed into French lessons for American students. These lessons are used by teachers of French in more than 2,000 schools across the country. To learn more about the language units and the Carole D. Fredericks Foundation, please visit www.carolefredericksfoundation.org

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