

An audience with the Godfather



Yep, that's right, [the Godfather of Soul](#), none other than the Hardest Working Man in Show Business, the inimitable, the authentic, [James Brown](#) (Mr. Brown, to you). That's us with The Boss, at his most recent appearance in the Bay Area, at the [Mountain Winery in Saratoga](#).

Kerry and I took off on a school night, in spite of all worries about nasty traffic, and made the trek to Saratoga for a very special evening. As it turned out, there was no traffic (that rebounding Silicon Valley economy -- NOT), and we got there in an hour. We didn't need to do the drive-through at [Chez Mac](#), because there was time, and food, at our fabulous destination. We just didn't know.

Because my brother, Roger, is currently employed as Mr. Brown's on-the-scene, showbiz manager, we got comped tickets (6th row center), and a personal audience with Mr. Brown himself ("Plzd to meet cha, God Bless"). It was over in a heartbeat, but we did get a photo opp, and made the most of it.

The show itself was awesome. The band includes about a dozen musicians, and then you add four backup singers, Mr. Brown, and two Bambi/Thumper-esque dancers wearing shorts and halter tops, which gets you almost twenty people on stage. The tenor sax player in particular was HOT, with several impressive solos. Mr. Brown performed all the standard songs you'd expect, including my favorite, an emotional, down-on-one-knee rendition of "This is a man's man's man's world".

We had never been to the venue before, which is the old Paul Masson winery, now converted into an outdoor theater/music venue complete with restaurant overlooking the entire Bay Area. Fantastic view. Really quite the memorable experience.

Thanks Roger :-)

posted by Robert at [4:30 PM](#)

