

Gina Rene

The Urban Musical Goddess



Eclectic songbird Gina Rene found her earliest musical influences inside two generations of her very own multi-cultural family. Her grandfather Leon Rene wrote the rock n'roll classic, "Rockin Robin" as well as Louis Armstrong's theme song "Sleepy Time Down South". Her father wrote "Wham Bam" which featured blues legend Johnny "Guitar" Watson and drummer Earl Palmer. Going well beyond her lineage, everything from the sounds of 1940's torch style singing, coupled with the stylings of Chaka Khan and Prince took hold of her creative soul. However, the raw creativity of 80's hip hop became the final ingredient of the harmonic recipe that gave birth to Gina Rene's incomparable musical style.

A native of the Bohemian city of Santa Cruz, California, Gina Rene grew up performing everywhere she could including The Philippines, Malaysia, Mexico City, New York, Chicago, Toronto, Vancouver, Detroit, Washington D.C., Los Angeles and more. Upon her high school graduation, she emerged on the San Francisco scene becoming the accidental lead singer of electronic music phenomenon, Soulstice, the brainchild of her producer brother

Gabriel Rene who has been a key element in her artistic development and continues to be a frequent collaborator. Thereafter, she sought the best training she could find which she found in Raz Kennedy, Bobby McFerrin's former teacher. After Soulstice hit the studio to complete their second album, band members found their tastes shifting into more of a mainstream sound that was both diverse and unique. These musical styles weren't compatible with Soulstice's label at the time and that's when Gina realized the time had come to go solo.

She jetted down the coast to light up spots in the City of Angeles quickly finding a home at Hollywood's renowned hip-hop café where she eventually earned a reputation at their late-night freestyle sessions as one fierce femcee. (www.hiphopcafe.org) Her next venture began with a phone call which resulted in her winning rapper turned radio host Yo-Yo's respect by easily winning over 93.5 KDAY listeners in the "Throw It Up or Slow It Up" contest. Beyond the radiowaves, her songs have also been heard on the movie soundtrack for the Lindsay Lohan starrer Mean Girls and the Walt Disney dance flick Step Up.

This exceptional artist injects class, grit and humor into her work both on and off stage with Truth being her constant theme. You hear the passion in her voice and feel her joy when she takes the stage. The honesty in her storytelling recounts her journeys in urban America. Once homeless, she's seen the ups and downs of struggle first hand, and seamlessly blends her past experiences into a listener's delight. Audiences cannot help but to respond to her journey from pain to spiritual healing. In addition to uplifting the consciousness of the planet, she's a role model for all females, a proud part of the movement that dares to break stereotypes of the past, while inspiring a worldwide acceptance of powerful women to be embraced by future generations.

Gina's current single '*Be The Change*' was considered for a *Grammy in 2008* and is a very timely song that reflects our changing history and how each of us is an important part of this change.

She is a part of The Agape International Spiritual community in Los Angeles and is God-daughter of Agape founder/Speaker Michael Beckwith.

During a live performance of the song at Agape in 2007, Michael jumped on the microphone and started improvising a poetic freestyle rhyme. The congregation went crazy as they took in this creative collaboration. It was in this moment that Gina was Inspired to ask him to come into the studio and speak over the track itself.

Be The Change is evolving into a Global movement for which Gina's music is definitely a key element. *Be the Change* is also the 2009 Theme Song for Earth Hour Los Angeles and featured Gina as a headliner for their Global event at Nokia Plaza LA Live on March 28th, 2009(www.earthhourUS.org/losangeles).

If you think you can keep up with Gina Rene check out: www.ginarene.com

www.myspace.com/ginarene.

For links to more video check out: www.youtube.com/GinaReneMusic

For her collective reality show with her crew DiY check out: www.DiYartistTV.com

[For her recent co-laboration with www.Earthhourus.org/losangeles](http://www.Earthhourus.org/losangeles)