

Gita....

About Gita

Not everyone gets to sing to music legends Quincy Jones and Isaac Hayes. But then nobody has a voice quite like Gita.

Born and raised in the tiny mid-Atlantic paradise of Bermuda, Gita's unique talent is loved and recognised far beyond its fabled pink shores. The petite contralto fuses jazz and R&B into a style all her own with an appeal crosses over genres and generations.

In October 2009, Gita was chosen to perform a special two-song tribute to music legend Quincy Jones during the annual Bermuda Music Festival. Gita serenaded the 27-time Grammy Award winner after Premier Dr. Ewart Brown presented Jones with the Island's African Diaspora Heritage Trail Award honouring Jones' lifetime contributions to culture and humanity. Gita then joined superstars Kenny Rogers, Michael MacDonald, James Ingrams, Patti Austin and Siedah Garrett on stage to sing a memorable, show-closing version of "We Are The World".

Gita is used to keeping such illustrious company. In 1999 she was asked to perform at a birthday celebration for soul legend Isaac Hayes at the Copacabana in New York City. Isaac called her performance "incredible". During her career she has opened for such stars as Gladys Knight, John Legend, Jonathan Butler, Lee Ritenour, Herbie Mann, Cassandra Wilson, Chris Botti and Angie Stone.

Gita draws from a variety of truly talented influences, which are reflected in her developed stage presence, vocal control, and versatility. These influences, a combination of traditional jazz singers and contemporary stylists include the legendary Sarah Vaughn, Nancy Wilson, Shirley Horn, Gladys Knight, Sade and Barbara Streisand.

Most of all, Gita sings about life and love from the heart. "I would like to have the authenticity of my spirit be captured through my music," she says. "I want to touch the world!"

Indeed, in November 2008 and November 2010 she did perform with the Toni Bari Trio for the world ... or at least the residents of *The World*, the world's only luxury floating private community during its stay in Bermuda.

Gita has released two critically acclaimed CDs, *Angel Eyes* and *My Favourite Things* and performs regularly throughout Bermuda and abroad. She was also featured on the CDs, "Inside my Mind" by Vic Glazer, and "Christmas in Bermuda", by Lynda Lovett.

Gita Blakeney
#1 North Court Avenue
North Shore, Pembroke. HM04, Bermuda
441-295-1214 (hm) 441-734-9882 (cell) 441-296-3536 (fax)
gitab@logic.bm www.gitathesong.com

Gita....

Gita speaks French fluently, having studied it formally in a Canadian University, with subsequent tutelage at the Université de la Sorbonne in Paris France where she made her home for a period of two years. Gita has a passion for the fine arts, and has received formal vocal and dance training.

Gita remains closely connected to the community in Bermuda and is presently Regional Vice President of addiction treatment centre, Caron Bermuda. She is also an owner of Flowers by GiMi, a luxury floral design and customized gift boutique.

With her dynamic drive and determination Gita's career promises to be a long and successful one that reaches far beyond her beloved Bermuda!

Gita - *SEE HER ... FEEL HER ... KNOW HER!!*

Career highlights:

- Chosen to serenade Quincy Jones on stage at the 2009 Bermuda Music Festival.
- Performed "We Are The World" on stage with Kenny Rogers, Michael MacDonald, James Ingrams, Patti Austin and Siedah Garrett at the 2009 Bermuda Music Festival.
- Opened for Gladys Knight at the Bermuda Love Festival, 2008
- Released first CD, *My Favourite Things*, 1996, Bermuda
- Released second CD, *Angel Eyes*, 2006, Bermuda
- Voted "Best Performing Artist" in the 2007 Belco VIP Excellence Awards, held each year to honour and recognise those persons in the Hospitality Industry who have promoted excellence in Bermuda's Tourism Industry.
- Recipient of the Crystal Award by Adlev Entertainment for her musical contributions to Bermuda.
- Three- time recipient of *The Bermudian* magazine's "Best of Bermuda Award" - 1996, 1998 and 2005
- Performed in "All You Need Is Love" video and CD track recorded as part of Bermuda's 2012 Summer of Love John Lennon Tribute.
- Performed a sold out concert at the City Hall Theatre in 1996, Bermuda
- Invited Guest Performer at the "3rd Annual Salute to Soul Birthday Celebration for Isaac Hayes, sponsored by radio station Kiss, 1999, Copacabana in NYC
- Featured artist on TV series "BET ON JAZZ", 1998, (Black Entertainment Television)

Gita Blakeney
#1 North Court Avenue
North Shore, Pembroke. HM04, Bermuda
441-295-1214 (hm) 441-734-9882 (cell) 441-296-3536 (fax)
gitab@logic.bm www.gitathesong.com

Gita...

- Interviewed on the BBC Radio Talk Show. 1997, which featured her C.D. London, England
- Performed in Bermuda Jazz Festivals 1996, 1997 and 2005 and was opening act for Jonathan Butler, Lee Ritenour, Herbie Mann, Cassandra Wilson, Chris Botti and Angie Stone
- Leading vocalist role in “Greg Thompson’s Bermuda Revue”, Southampton Princess Hotel, Bermuda, 1990
- Performed at the Smithsonian Folklore Festival, 2001, Washington, DC
- Guest Performer at “Marketing Opportunities in Black Entertainment” event, 1997, New York City
- Performed on behalf of the Bermuda insurance market at the RIMS Conferences in 2001 (Atlanta, Georgia), 2002 (New Orleans), 2003 (Chicago), and 2004 (San Diego)
- Performed at the Four Seasons Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada for the Bermuda Department of Tourism
- Performed at the Irving Plaza with the Clarke Eno Orchestra. 1997, NYC
- Performed at the World Bank for the World Conference of Mayors, 1998, Washington DC
- Performed in a talent showcase before a select group of music industry executives and media personnel, which included Sylvia Rhone, CEO, East West Records and Cynthia Horner, Executive Editor, “Right On” Magazine who featured Gita in her June 1992 edition.

Gita Blakeney
#1 North Court Avenue
North Shore, Pembroke. HM04, Bermuda
441-295-1214 (hm) 441-734-9882 (cell) 441-296-3536 (fax)
gitab@logic.bm www.gitathesong.com