

ASHAKI ZEIGLER::

Singer, performer

Passionate, Soulful, Sweet, and Skillful are a few words that come to mind after listening to one of Ashaki Zeiglers' performances. Ashaki's voice is a combination of a little bit of R&B, some soul, and a whole lot of jazz. Ashaki is a soprano with a very wide range. Ashaki, pronounced (ah-shock-key), has a voice that will take you on a ride. She will begin by grabbing your attention with a light, endearing tone, then take you higher with notes that can rest on a cloud. Before long, this high energy performer will have you on the dance floor bopping and stepping right alongside herself. This soft-spoken lady, off stage, steps on stage, and illuminates it. Ashaki's voice and style is as original as she is.

Ashaki was born on January 29th in Detroit, MI. She was immersed in music since birth. Ashaki is a third-generation performer. Beginning with her maternal grandmother who sang with the legendary Dupree Choir, to her parents who originated and performed in a Detroit area gospel group The Disciples of Joy. It's no wonder that her first words were not spoken, instead, she sang them out.

Ashaki first sang publicly in church. This was where she was introduced to jazz after singing solo in the church choir. Thereafter, her love for jazz grew. She began studying jazz greats such as Lena Horne and Billie Holiday. Ashaki has performed worldwide, with her longest international residency in Japan. She has been accompanied by such greats as Marcus Belgrave, Harold McKinney, Dr. Teddy Harris, Jr. and Don Mayberry. Ashaki has worked with gospel great Tramaine Hawkins and the late director Ron Milner. Working with jazz artists Dee Dee McNeil, Beans Bowles, and being featured with the Windsor Symphony Orchestra are additional highlights of her musical career. Ashaki has performed in many venues including Baker's Keyboard Lounge, Bert's Place, The Comfort Zone, Absolute Tiffany's, Café Mahogany, The Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History, The Music Hall, and the Detroit Orchestra Hall. Ashaki was also featured on the cover of the Metro times Annual Manual as one of Detroit's emerging jazz artists

. Ashaki's latest CD "Remember the Way", a musical tribute to some of her favorite jazz pieces, mixed with some of her original songs, was produced by legendary bassist Ralph Armstrong. Stay on the look out for Ashaki as she's always working on her next project.

Because of Ashaki's love and appreciation for the art of sound, she will remain in the business of song until she no longer has a voice. Her passion and desire for continuous study in her craft will keep this artist relevant in this ever-changing business. Ashaki's ability to engage the audience will leave all who encounter her wanting more. Whether she is covering a well known song or belting out an original piece Ashaki is here to stay. Afterall Diamonds are forever.

