

## Wilma Ann

St. Thomas, Virgin Islands native Wilma Ann crossed crystal blue waters to bless us with her dynamic vocal presence. Her voice is touched with intimate soul, softened by jazzy resonance and glorified with the cunning to flow smoothly through tight gospel-tinged riffs. Her music is at once romantic soul, funk, with an occasional hip-hop edge.

She began her musical career in grade school studying the flute. As her love for vocal music grew, she changed disciplines and formally studied vocal music by attending New York City's "famed" High School of the Arts. There she studied opera and learned to sing in Italian, French, German, and Spanish. Classical study helped the 20-something artist develop her skills in intonation and breathing. You'll hear the results of this training as she easily lures you to falsettos from hair-raising belts.

Wilma Ann began performing in the church choir at age eleven and has since performed in citywide choruses and vocal artist showcases. Her background in music was instrumental when directing the Cornell University gospel choir and founding Baraka Kwa Wimbo, a smaller gospel ensemble.

Wilma Ann's experience as a published poet is evident in the clever and reflective lyrics of the songs she writes. She believes that there is freedom in diversity, and her passion and knowledge of diverse musical genres allows her to bring her skills and creativity to every project. Take a minute to look under the surface.