

BIOGRAPHY

In spite of what is usually considered a boy's first name, Johnnie (Proby) is a lady with class, talent, charm, and a genuine love for others. A petite bundle of power, Johnnie's crystal soprano voice resonates in the musical genres spanning inspirational, gospel, jazz, and classical repertoires.

Like many performers, Johnnie's talent first became evident when she began singing in church at age 5. As the next to youngest of 13 children, Johnnie's remarkable voice was her means of establishing her individual approach to life and finding the way to show God's love to everyone she meets. After years of singing in local churches and at community functions, Johnnie's vocal training was cultivated through her music major studies at Nicholls State University in Thibodaux, Louisiana and Southern University in her native New Orleans.

Johnnie's training has included "Barefoot Shiatzu," a holistic, vocal, aerobic technique taught by the legendary Hope Foye. Her mastery of this technique and her compassion for others has enhanced her vocal delivery and enabled Johnnie to become a "Healing Voice" to those who hear her sing. Her years of professional training can be noticed as she brilliantly captivates her audience gliding across a wide vocal range. Johnnie's gift comes through as a sweet sound to awaken the spirit. In 2006 Johnnie released her first Inspirational CD, "**Life is Now**", on which she penned the title track. She exquisitely wraps her beautiful soprano voice around ten inspiring songs that feed the soul and uplift the heart.

Johnnie's musical studies have helped her develop the skills necessary for concerts as well as theatre performance. Johnnie cherishes her most recent performances:

- The African Awareness Campaign's 7th Annual "Compassion for Africa" Benefit Dinner, at Founders Inn & Spa - Virginia Beach, VA with keynote address by The Honorable Andrew Young.
- The *Inaugural Observance of Mrs. Coretta Scott King's Birthday*, at the Georgia State Capitol and the Martin Luther King, Jr. March & Rally.
- The *For the Love of Achor* Awards Gala as featured artist.
- The Atlanta-Rio de Janeiro Sister Cities Committee 2007 Awards Ceremony and Anniversary Gala in the Atlanta City Hall Atrium, to honor *Mayor Shirley Franklin*.
- Clark Atlanta University's presentation of Gian-Carlo Menotti's Opera, "Old Maid and the Thief."

In addition to her concert performances, Johnnie is often called an "uplifter" as she spends a lot of time mentoring youth. Johnnie is a volunteer and mentor with SCLC W.O.M.E.N. "*Bridging The Gap*" – Girls-To-Women Mentoring Program; Essence Cares/Atlanta Cares "*Moving in the Spirit*"; and "*Boys and Girls Club of Atlanta*". Johnnie is a Certified *Second Step Trainer*, which teaches a social skills approach to youth violence prevention. She is currently studying with *The Virtues Project, Inc.*, learning "*The Gift of Character*" building techniques. Most recently Johnnie facilitated a Personal Development Workshop entitled "Empowerment through Inspiration and Spirituality" for forty teenage girls at The Johnnetta B. Cole Global Diversity & Inclusion Institute "Powergirl" Global Summer Leadership Institute - Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina. Currently Johnnie facilitates Personal Development Seminars entitled "*Your Life is Now Workshop Series*" for hundreds of high school seniors at *Mayor Shirley Franklin's "Youth Program"* in Atlanta, GA.

Johnnie continues to build resilience overcoming odds, using her own life experiences to serve her community and empower youth, while teaching the power of self-love. While Johnnie loves performing, she also has a passion for mentoring youth. Both performing and mentoring are the Divine callings upon her life. Thus, her ultimate goal is to create a movement that will awaken all mankind into a higher level of consciousness where they can live their life now.

Her Electronic Press Kit available by calling (678) 558-7103 or visit www.myspace.com/JohnnieProbyOnline or www.JohnnieProby.com. Videos of recent performances can be seen at www.myspace.com/heavensentmedia.