

Victoria BeeBee Singer Songwriter Professional Vocal Coach

Childhood

Victoria BB has been playing piano and writing songs from the early age of 6 years. It wasn't until she was 8 years old that her parents were told by a primary school teacher she could play the piano, sing and compose songs. This was the time her parents bought her the most wonderful old black piano and she began to compose her own compositions daily.

Early influences

Some of the first big influences she had were with the classical pianist artists such as Richard Clayderman and George Gershwin whose 'Rhapsody In Blue' piece inspired her and also singer/songwriter Carol King.

Education

At the age of 16 Victoria left home and went to study Jazz and popular music at Chichester College of Technology gaining a diploma in this subject and exploring different styles of music being inspired by the likes of Ella Fitzgerald through to Janis Joplin. She steered towards jazz, blues and rock and was lucky enough to have teachers such as Bobby Wellins the amazing saxophonist who encouraged Victoria's writing skills and Chris McDonald who gave immense support with pushing her performance skills to the bigger stage.

On Tour

Victoria pursued a career in music professionally from the age of 15 recording for various producers and exploring different styles of music. She joined her first group 'Fresh Connection' who had recorded a song which went to No: 2 in the British charts with Nomad's Mike Freedom 'I wanna give you devotion.'

In her 20's Victoria opened for acts as diverse as Status Quo, Rose Royce, Bill Wyman (Rolling Stones), Sister Sledge and the UK rock band Stereophonics, as well as performing live at top venues around the world and in the UK which included the Beatles renowned 'Cavern Club'.

Victoria also travelled around the world performing with many symphony orchestras at international song festivals in Egypt, Turkey, Ireland and Macedonia where she won awards for best performer. All of these were televised live with huge media attention and several TV interviews. This was followed by a world cruise, singing on board the world famous QE2 cruise ship as the lead vocalist, covering a wide spectrum of musical styles including Jazz, Pop, Soul, Country, Rock, Rhythm and Blues.

London

From the age of 21 BB moved to London for several years where she recorded and co-wrote many original songs. During this period she recorded and worked with various producers providing vocals for studio sessions for prestigious artists such as Cher, wrote music for Carlton TV's 'Liverpool 1' and provided vocals for top West End shows including 'Casper' and 'The Mask and Spiderman'.

Cockney Rebel & George Harrison Tribute

From 2000 she toured Europe with Steve Harley and Cockney Rebel as vocalist and percussionist making appearances on BBC Radio 2 Road Shows around the UK. Victoria performed in front of thousands on the Pyramid Stage Glastonbury Festival 2005 and sang at events such as the 'George Harrison Tribute Concert' in Liverpool (Feb 2002) where she had the honour of singing alongside the legendary Sir Paul McCartney (The Beatles).

Guitars against Landmines

Victoria also sang alongside Julie Felix in 2002 at the 'Guitars against landmines' concert helping to raise awareness about the terror of landmines injuring and killing thousands of people in Cambodia each year.

Vanessa Mae

During this time her talent was spotted by Vanessa Mae's agents and she was invited to tour with the classical superstar violinist, performing in Russia, Hong Kong, Germany and Indonesia with live broadcasts in Korea & Europe.

2006 and onwards

2006 was an extraordinary time for BB with hundreds of gigs & shows up and down the country and many BBC Radio Interviews where she was given much air play of her debut album.....and chatted with some of the best radio DJ's in the country including, BBC Radio Leicester's Julie Mayer, BBC Radio Cleveland's John Foster, BBC Radio Cumbria's Paul Braithwaite, BBC Radio Lincolnshire's Martin Daniels & Maria Richmond show, BBC Radio Derby's Alex Trelinski, Mike Chadwick Kiss FM BBC Three Counties Radio with Katherine Boyle, BBC Radio Nottingham's Frances Finn, BBC Radio Southern Counties with Fred Marden, County Sound's Dave Johns, 96.4 The Eagle with Julia Moore and Market Harborough and South Leicestershire's HFM 102.3 with Darren Harte.

BB had the pleasure of Joan Armatrading (70's hit Love and Affection) coming down to hear her sing at her launch concert and also doing a duet with the folk icon Julie Felix (60's hit and school favourite 'Going To The Zoo'.

In 2007 'Beautiful' BB's song was picked up by Cancer Charity 'In The Pink' and auctioned to celebrities at their event in London and on download sites helping to raise funds, Nina Wadia East Enders Star was impressed with the album.

In 2008 BB was a special guest on the Innocent Ones UK Tour when the show hit The Fairfield Halls in London and opened by playing a grand piano and original song for Jared Osmond.

In 2009 she was signed to Active/Universal and released her co-written single 'Breathe' which did very well in the download charts. The launch event was held at Boujis in London where Prince William would often attend pre-marriage to Kate.

VoxSkool! Vocal Coaching

Over the past 7 years Victoria set up a vocal coaching school 'VoxSkool!' and has been teaching vocals to children and adults on a one-to-one basis and in groups freelancing to venues and in schools adding emphasis on confidence building with a mix of holistic approaches to understanding the voice and some theory to ever improve abilities and a goal to eventually perform everything which has been learnt in an annual music concert/show or any other opportunities to perform live and sometimes experience recording a song in the studio. She has seen many of her students go on to gig at some top live venues and gain places at LAMDA, ITALIA CONTI LONDON and The WEST END living out their musical dreams..

Hollywood

In 2010 BB had the pleasure of working with some very cool 80's music icons/producers such as Billy Sheehan (Bass player - Steve Vai, Mr Big, David Lee Roth) Rudy Sarzo - Bass (Ozzy Osbourne, Whitesnake, Kip Winger – Guitar Vocals (Alice Cooper) Ron Nevison – producer (Bad Company, Led Zeppelin, Heart, Starship, Chicago), Lemmy Kilmister – Bass Vocals Motorhead, Ace Freehley – lead Guitar Kiss – a very exciting moment when Ace commented out loud on BB's singing as they jammed together 'nice vocals Miss BB!'. BB performed an acoustic set at Gibson in Hollywood and on the Sunset strip with award winning Aerosmith producer Mark Hudson.

Choirs

VoxChoir! was formed mid 2010 - a place for ages 8-100 to come and sing and get the opportunity to perform a few times a year for events and charities or anything really! The choir has been strong for 4 years now and just recently were sponsored by Winchester County Council so put on an amazingly diverse music concert at The Harlington Centre in Fleet and now Hart Voluntary Action who also heard about the choir have offered a chance to become a registered charity, so we are currently in talks about this.

In 2011 BB was asked to coach the children to sing at Ferndale Primary School in Farnborough. They did a 10 week course in breathing technique, microphone technique, song writing, performance, working together as a unit/choir and they recorded a song for Eagle Radio's song at Christmas and at the school Christmas fete all the kids performed 'Reach For The Stars' and 'Welcome To Our World' with some of the children being brave enough to do vocal solo's on the microphone for the very first time.

Through Hart Voluntary Action in Fleet, BB had the privilege of meeting a lovely group of elderly Nepalese ladies who didn't speak much English at all. She studied a Nepalese speaking course and could communicate the basics with them. Part of her work with them

was making recordings for them and CD's so they could practice speaking English and also learning some songs like 'I Can See Clearly Now' adding the actions to help them remember the English words - it proved very effective and also wrote them their own song called 'Hello, How Are You?' using repetitive sentences to guide them with the English language. This technique with combined English and music proved very effective and the ladies even performed (all 30 of them) at the Music Concert in 2013.

BB has been working with ladies from the Women's Institute in Reading for the past 2 years and they have just made it through to the Regional Finals of 'Sing For Joy' which is a WI incentive to get more female's singing and have been chosen to represent the whole of Berkshire. The next stages could see them performing at The Royal Albert Hall in 2015.

Victoria has just taken on a new bunch of wonderful young students to form their choir at Wesfield Junior School Yatley....exciting times ahead!

Victoria has just this July 2014 been awarded a place on the Lloyds Social Entrepreneur's Scheme to build up her music school VoxSkool! after having competed in 3 rounds and pitching to the Dragons in Hampshire. This is now a wonderful opportunity to embrace even more musical opportunities for the community to get involved with and Victoria is raring to get it going!