

gina loring

www.ginaloring.com

EDUCATION/ TRAINING

B.A. in English and Theater, Spelman College,

Scene Study: Marla Gibbs (www.marlagibbs.net)

Vocal Training: Julie Christensen (www.stonecupid.com)

Voice Over Training: Kalmenson & Kalmenson, Inc. (www.kalmenson.com)

Lien /Cowen Commercial and Theater Workshop

French language studies, Santa Monica College

EXPERIENCE

Poetry

American Embassy guest poet, Kuwait City, Kuwait (2007, 2008)

Creative Writing/Poetry teacher, Community Harvest Charter School (2006-2008)

Featured Poet, AOL.com's *Black Voices Poetry Cafe* (2007)

Featured Poet, KCET.com's *Children of Slam* (2007)

Poetry in Idyllwild intensive summer workshop (2006)

Def Jam Mobile (2005/06)

HBO's Russell Simmons' presents: *Def Poetry* (2003/05)

Norman Lear's *Declare Yourself* tour (2002-2004)

Featured poet/ spokesperson, *Women in Film* PSA (currently airing)

Contributing writer, Nappy Roots *Rock the Vote* PSA (2004)

BET's *Lyric Café* and *BET Poetry Explosion* (2002/03)

Top ranking female poet in the nation (*National Poetry Slam* 2002)

Music

Featured Vocalist, *Notre Dame de la Criox, Opus Café, Café Universel*, Paris, France (2008)

Resident performer at *The Temple Bar* (www.templebarlive.com)

Background Vocals, *Natalie Cole Verve Records Video Promo* (2006), *Mind of Mencia* (2006),

Rock Star INXS (2005), *Patti LaBelle Diabetes PSA*, (2005), BET's "The Way We Do It" (2002)

Songwriter/Vocalist, *The Brand New Heavies* "We Won't stop"

Vocalist, *Debbie Allen Dance Academy* Tap Fest and Hip Hop Intensive (2004-07)

Featured Vocalist, *NAACP Image Awards* banquet, *Delta Sigma Theta, Sorority Inc.* Awards banquet,

Spelman College Jazz Brunch, (2003-2007)

Theatre/ Misc.

House manager, The Fountain Theatre's "*Lady Day*," and "*What I heard about Iraq*," (2004/05)

Theatrical voice over, East/West Documentary, *Highwood Productions* (2004)

Carsey-Werner Publicity Department, executive assistant (2000-2003)

Assistant Director, *Showboat Youth Theater* (summer theater workshop 2002/03)

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www.myspace.com/ginaloring

With a rich, soulful voice, thought provoking lyrics, and a powerful stage presence, Gina Loring is in a league of her own. The top ranking female poet at the 2002 National Poetry Slam, she was featured on two seasons of HBO's Russell Simmons' Def Poetry and BET's Lyric Cafe. Following several showcases produced by Norman Lear, she was hired as a writer/ performer on his "Declare Yourself" tour. In conjunction with Diddy's "Vote or Die" campaign and Rock the Vote, Gina helped to register thousands of young voters. She was also a featured vocalist/songwriter on the Brand New Heavies album "We Won't Stop" and has been mentored by such artists as Mos Def, Pharoahe Monch, Suzan-Lori Parks and Marla Gibbs.

In 2007, Gina went to Kuwait as a guest of the American Embassy's cultural envoy program and according to the American Embassy and Kuwaiti records, made history as the first American hip hop artist to perform in Kuwait. While there, she made several television appearances, performed her original poetry and music to packed crowds, and conducted poetry workshops. She was invited back for a second trip in 2008 to teach a ten-day intensive poetry workshop with Kuwaiti high school students. In 2008, Gina visited Paris, France, where she was warmly received at performances at Notre Dame de la Croix, Opus Café and Café Universel. Gina wrote and starred in a currently airing *Women in Film* PSA and was awarded the prestigious Bibby scholarship to the Idyllwild Intensive Poetry workshop, where she studied under Pulitzer Prize winning poet Natasha Trethewey.

A graduate of Spelman College, Gina performed with their award-winning Jazz Ensemble, Glee Club and Theater Ensemble and also attended Columbia University, where she studied under renowned Hip Hop historian Michael Eric Dyson. A gifted actress, Gina starred in a production of George C. Wolfe's "The Colored Museum" and various theatrical shorts during her time in the Atlanta/ Tri-State areas. A member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., Gina would like to follow in the footsteps of such pioneers as Ruby Dee and Lena Horne in positively contributing through her art. With influences ranging from classic Hip Hop to Nina Simone to Sonia Sanchez, her highly reflective lyrics demonstrate her ability to reveal the intimate. Gina is one of very few artists who seamlessly balance music and poetry, both of her talents equally strong enough to stand on their own. Encompassing such subjects as love, spirituality and social activism, her work is raw and passionate, yet always presented with the grace that seems inherent in this young woman's spirit. She is the daughter of actor William Marshall, cousin of actor Paul Winfield and Jazz composer/musician Teddy Edwards Sr., and she would like to dedicate her work to their memory. Above all else, Gina lives, creates and moves forward in honor of the life of her brother, Malcolm Marshall. Please visit www.myspace.com/ginaloring or www.cdbaby.com to purchase Gina's debut CD and hear her for your self.

2008 College/University Performance List

University of Miami

St. Martin's, Seattle Washington

Jacksonville University

Missouri Western State

Webster University, St. Louis Missouri

University of South Mississippi

Polytechnic University, Brooklyn New York

Oakwood School (high school) North Hollywood, Ca.

University of the Pacific, Stockton, Ca.

Converse College, South Carolina

Mary Baldwin College, Virginia

Bennett College, Greensboro, NC

Cornell University, Ithaca, NY

U. of South Carolina, Spartanburg

U of Alabama, Birmingham

Old Dominion, Norfolk, Virginia

University of Southern California

Wichita State, Wichita Kansas

UNC Wilmington

UNC Charlotte

UC Santa Cruz

University of Cincinnati

Northeastern University, Boston MA