

# **Nia Allen**

## **Worship leader-Songwriter**

To describe Nia Allen's music is to describe the sound of pure, passionate worship. She sings with a heartfelt conviction that exudes her zeal for God and compels listeners into a genuine worship experience. Nia is one of this generation's fresh talents leading the way in praise and worship. Having a universal appeal, her music is honest, uplifting and captivating to the soul. She is truly something special and her ministry will impact the lives of many.

Having grown up in a musical family, she was constantly surrounded by musical influences. Allen's gift of singing was cultivated from the early age of five when she was often called upon to sing in the church where her grandfather was Pastor. As Nia began to grow under these influences, she eventually decided to further her education by attending Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts. She earned a Bachelor's degree in Music Education and gained a wealth of knowledge and experience that continued to build a firm foundation for her music career. She traveled the world performing various genres of music in places like Trinidad, Spain, Italy and Switzerland. It was her experience at Berklee that confirmed her desire to pursue music as a career and ministry. "I was so inspired seeing other young people with the same drive and desire for the arts. I knew this was what I wanted to do," said Allen.

Since her years at Berklee, Nia has garnered the attention of some of the top artists and producers in the industry. She has traveled as a background vocalist for Nicole C. Mullen, David and Nicole Binion and Calvin Nowell. She has been a guest artist on TBN's Praise the Lord program with artists such as Martha Munizzi, Mary Alessi and The Katinas. She went on to become a featured solo artist on CeCe Winans' presents Pure Worship where she sang an original song entitled "I Love You More Each Day". Winans also invited Nia to be the worship leader for her "Always Sisters Forever Brothers" conference in 2009.

Nia's ministry has continued to expand and evolve on local and national levels. For the past three years she has traveled across the country leading worship with Women of Faith in packed out arenas of 10,000 plus women. Through Women of Faith she has gained national exposure as a worship leader and had the opportunity to share the stage with award winning artists like Sandi Patty, Nicole C. Mullen, Natalie Grant and others. She has also led worship for the National Worship Leader's Conference in Austin, Texas, which was comprised of 3,000 Worship Leaders from around the world. Her gift of setting an atmosphere with the presence of God is undeniable.

The ministry God has given Nia goes beyond singing; she is also a songwriter, teacher and minister. She wrote most of the material on her debut project, *A New Thing* and her upcoming sophomore release, *Here am I*. Nia also conducts worship workshops teaching the core principles of worship that she has learned throughout her ministry. "I want to convey the importance of worship and what it means to have a personal relationship with the Lord," she said. It doesn't have to look like everyone else's. You can have your own intimate relationship with the Father. He loves us, and longs for connection with each and every one of His children." Nia hopes that her music will transcend through racial and cultural barriers, proving that worship is universal. The theme of her sophomore project, scheduled to release this summer, is intimate worship. She collaborated with a stellar cast on *Here am I*, including award winning producer Sal Oliveri, and Grammy award-winning producer Drew Ramsey (India Arie, Nicole C. Mullen, Jonny Lang). Most of the songs featured on the project emphasize surrender to God and will also challenge the listener to trust and receive intimate fellowship with Him.

Currently Nia resides in Nashville, TN where she is pursuing her Masters of Divinity at Vanderbilt University, and traveling around the country ministering in song to diverse audiences. Nia hopes to continue her travels, and lead worship internationally!