

Anita Jackson is a native of St. Louis, Missouri who returned home after living in New York City for twelve years. She is a graduate of the American Music and Dramatic Academy in New York and has performed extensively nationally and internationally in theater productions, concerts and workshops.

She has recorded and performed as a background vocalist for such artists as Bette Midler on (her Grammy Award winning song for Song of the Year in 1991) "From a Distance", Patti Austin on "I Can Move this Mountain", Mariah Carey on "Anytime You Need a Friend", recording artists Chico DeBarge, Joe, Erykah Badu and most notably Cissy and Whitney Houston. She is a vocalist on Cissy Houston's Grammy award winning "Face to Face" album, as well as her 1997 Grammy award winning "He Leadeth Me" album.

As a gospel BGV, Anita has performed with Shirley Caesar, the late Albertina Walker, Dorothy Norwood and Tramaine Hawkins. Anita was a featured vocalist on the 2014 Reach Week in New York City live recording for New Hope for the World Ministries recorded in Harlem, NY under the auspices of Rev. Terrance L. Kennedy, with Vickie Winans and Melanie Daniels.

In St. Louis, Anita has been a featured player with the St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre under the direction of Ron Himes. She has performed in "Gospel at Colonus", "Ain't Misbehavin'", "Caroline or Change" and "Blues in the Night" for which she was nominated for the St. Louis 2010 Kevin Kline Award for Best Actress in a Musical. Anita performed as Bertha in "Hello from Bertha" at the first annual Tennessee Williams festival in St. Louis under the direction of David Kaplan. She was nominated for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama by the St. Louis Theatre Circle - 2016/2017. In 2017, Anita reprised the character of Bertha in the annual Tennessee Williams' festival in a cabaret at the Curtain Call called "Bertha's Back!" In 2018, Anita performed the role of Mother Shaw in the Black Rep's "hattitude" production of Crowns written by Regina Taylor, to open their historic 42nd season.

She has appeared as a featured vocalist with several jazz, R&B, soul, blues and gospel music groups in and around St. Louis from Jazz, St. Louis (formally Jazz at the Bistro) to BB's Jazz & Soups to the St. Louis Ethical Society to the Heman Park Starlight Concert Series to the Sheldon Concert Hall - as a solo artist as well as a collaborative artist with many of St. Louis' finest musicians. In 2018, Anita accepted a fellowship as a resident artist with the Kranzberg Arts Foundation (KAF) for which she is one of nine featured jazz performance and recording artists. In November 2018, Anita traveled to Buenos Aires, Argentina to

participate in a gospel workshop and concert as a featured artist with New Hope for the World Ministries led by Pastor Terrance L. Kennedy of New York, New York.

In February 2019, Anita will perform a tribute to Ella Fitzgerald at the Sheldon Concert Hall as part of their lunch with an artist series; as well this year, she will release a compilation EP with her fellow KAF artists-in-residence from the Dark Room series at the Grandel and her very own EP original composition, *A Beautiful Life!*

Anita gives thanks to the family of Christ and praises God for HIS matchless goodness and mercy.

She dedicates her performances to her beautiful daughter Christian for teaching her to trust God

John 3:16.