

LARANAH PHIPPS-RAY BIO

SEXY SASSY FUNKY CLASSY BLUESY JAZZY COSMIC

Laranah Phipps-Ray embodies the spirit of jazz, funk, and Afrofuturism like few others on the planet. A singer, songwriter, influencer and producer, she has a prolific career in entertainment, fronting La Funkalicious, collaborating with A-list musicians, and performing. Having firmly established herself as an impossible-to-ignore talent, Laranah is on a mission to share her gifts with an ever-growing audience.

Laranah's musical prowess comes as no surprise, considering she was born to jazz royalty, more specifically, the Phipps Family, Newark's First Family of Jazz. As the daughter of pioneering saxophonist Gene Phipps, Sr., she received an unparalleled education in jazz and entertainment from a young age. She later married the renowned trumpeter Michael Ray, known for his work with Sun Ra Arkestra, Kool & The Gang, Cosmic Krewe and others. The pair are affectionately known as 'The Cosmic Couple'. As a result, Laranah's high energy performances, regal stage presence and mesmerizing vocal ability, make her a favorite of fans all over the world.

Laranah brings to the table, her own distinctive sound, phrasing and story telling. Laranah's voice is laced with a certain ancient African richness. Her instrument soars with a distinct yet familiar soul and power. She is most noted for "her far from mainstream" scat-styling, five octave range, her improvisational facility and her volcanic grasp of groove.

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As a recording artist, Laranah has penned several powerhouse songs including the singles 'I Rule the Night,' 'Love in Santiago,' 'Sudden Love,' and 'Save Me Now'. The Cosmic Couple consistently co-writes; They recently collaborated with famed saxophonist Marshall Allen of Sun Ra Arkestra on the 2019 single 'Mayan Temple,' Kym Miller of Instant Funk on 'Covid-19' and Kevin Hearn of Barenaked Ladies on 'Hello Hello.' Laranah latest album release with La Funkalicious is scheduled to drop January 2022.

While Laranah is best known for her music, she is also a savvy media entrepreneur and a vital voice in the fight for racial justice. Her production credits include professional stage management, live events producer, Influencer with multimedia outlets; Rayborhood TV, Behind the Cosmic Grind, and Down the Rabbit Hole. She is Executive Producer for the series, Tales from The Stage, in which A-list stars reveal the secrets of the entertainment industry, and Co-Producer & Co-Host of kNOW Justice kNOW Peace, a live stream which provides entertainment, education and resources to aid in the fight for racial equality.

Laranah has been blessed with an illustrious career, and she shows no sign of slowing down. She continues to find new avenues for her talents, bringing the same passion to every new project she tackles. With new projects scheduled for 2021 and beyond, fans of Laranah can expect her to continue to amaze for years to come.