5 | FRONTLINES

20 questions

Kenya

WHAT IS YOUR FULL NAME?

Kenya McGuire Johnson.

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN THE BIO-PIC OF YOUR LIFE?

Sanaa Latham or a young Phylicia Rashad.

AS A KID, WHO WAS YOUR BIGGEST MUSICAL INSPIRATION?

Stevie Wonder.

WHO WOULD YOU REALLY LIKE TO WORK WITH?

Stevie Wonder, John Mayer, Robert Glasper, Rasmus Faber, and/or Jarrod Lawson - CAN'T PICK ONE!

WHICH OF YOUR OWN GIGS HAS GIVEN YOU THE BIGGEST BUZZ?

Blues Alley, Dec 2014: sold out show... amazing energy and support at one of my fav venues here in the States.

WHICH SONG DO YOU WISH YOU HAD WRITTEN?

All in Love Is Fair by Stevie W.

FAVOURITE OWN SONG?

Never The Less; For Me from my first EP titled Starting Over; and Wednesday Girl, Be Here, Brown Soul, My Heart from my forthcoming album My Own Skin - CAN'T PICK ONE!!!

WHOSE WAS THE BEST LIVE GIG YOU EVER SAW?

Prince!!!!

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE ALBUM OF ALL TIME?

Ooooohhhh... such a tough question for me. These are my top: Music Of My Mind: Stevie Wonder My Life: Mary J. Blige Jarrod Lawson: Jarrod Lawson Off The Wall: Michael Jackson

WHOSE ADVICE HAS BEEN MOST WORTHWHILE TO YOU?

My husband's. He is beyond wise.

ARETHA OR BEYONCE?

Bey :-)



D'ANGELO'S BLACK MESSIAH ALBUM: AMAZING OR A LET DOWN?

Hmmm... somewhere in between. Solid album, but would love to be even more amazed.

ILLEGAL DOWNLOADS: ACCEPTABLE 'COS THEY SPREAD YOUR MUSIC TO THE MANY, OR PLAIN THEFT FROM MUSICIANS?

Theft! This grind is VERY expensive!!! If people only knew how incredibly expensive it is to be a successful indie artist, this would push people to reconsider the illegal download action.

EVER BEEN IN FEAR OF YOUR LIFE?

Just real quick once, with an 'almost' car accident.

WHO IS THE BEST MUSICIAN YOU HAVE WORKED WITH?

My producers Kendall Duffie and Khari Cabral Simmons amaze me... always!

WHAT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD LIKE?

True suburbia:-) Used to bother me, but now, with my busy lifestyle, its quite peaceful coming home to the quiet. Just wish it were in a warmer climate and there was a beach nearby:-)

WHAT'S BEEN YOUR FAVOURITE JOURNEY?

This music journey is winning!!

SUGGEST A BOOK WORTH READING:

Prisoner's Wife by Asha Bandele: pushes you to really reinterpret love and its potential dysfunction.

AND A MOVIE WORTH SEEING:

Take This Waltz - quirky but very interesting take on marriage and relationships.

WHOSE ALBUM ARE YOU GOING TO BUY NEXT?

Either Lalah's new live recording CD or Anita Baker's... if it ever comes to light.

Kenya's album In My Own Skin is released by Expansion.