

Kitayah

B I O G R A P H Y

Born into an ancient Middle Eastern family who's ancestors hailed from the historic city of Babylon, Kitayah (meaning wild bird in Arabic) was raised and educated in England. At age nine she attended the Arts Educational Schools studying Musical Theatre and gained a scholarship to the Royal College of Music in Opera and Composition. There she met fellow student Ian Prince who became the youngest signed songwriter to EMI Music (UK) at just seventeen. In her 2nd year at the Royal College of Music Kitayah worked with Ian as a session vocalist on his production work in the UK and Los Angeles USA. Kitayah lived and worked in LA for 7 years as a backing vocalist working on demos for Siedah Garratt, Paula Abdul, Karyn White and Earth Wind and Fire and writing with Michael Dorian, keyboardist with The Gap Band. Kitayah returned to the UK and worked as backing vocalist for Errol Brown's solo album 'Maya' and as session vocalist for producers 'Jiant' the hit makers of the Spice Girls, Hearsay and the Sugar Babes. Publishing followed, Kitayah collaborated with pioneering drummer Andy Gangadeen in writing the album 'Motivation', from these song writing sessions Kitayah established her career as a songwriter and had publishing on Ophelia Winters 'Best Of Me' (1994) (East West Records) reaching no. 1 in the German charts, Marie Claire 'Touch' (EMI Music) (Canada) and signing to Edel Music(Finland) for representing Helsinki - Cultural City of 2000 the Millennium year's anthem 'The Bridal City' (under the pseudonym artist name Maria O'). Kitayah has also taken her music experience into education as founder of the Vocal School at the Academy Of Contemporary Music in 1998, now internationally acclaimed for its success in the music industry and Italia Conti Performing Arts (London) as well as running her production company Kitayah Music Ltd in the commercial pop industry and theatre stage material in association with Hiltone Music Production.

