

A Word About Jennifer B

To try to label a certain style or specific genre to Jennifer B is not an easy task. She has been playing and creating music for over three decades. She has a broad spectrum of influences, ranging from styles of Etta James, Aretha Franklin, Carol King, Carly Simon, Annie Lennox, James Taylor, Buddy Guy, Peter Green, Paul Rodgers, Willie Nelson, Merle Haggard, Hank Williams Jr, Patsy Cline, Bessie Smith, Koko Taylor and others. Each show is a cascade of great tunes of many genres and many emotions. "The music has to feel good, stop your heart! And a good song is a good song, no matter the genre" says Jenn.

Her parents divorced when she was five years old and she, her brother and mom rented a small apartment above a Spirit-filled church in Sunnyvale, California. The people from the church had moved from the Mississippi Delta due to flooding to establish home there. They were lovely and always kind to Jennifer and didn't even mind that she and her brother would sneak down to listen to the choir as they practiced their songs. Jennifer was always mesmerized by the soul and heart these very poor people filled their songs with, creating a feeling in her, now recognized as Blues. "Any song that makes you feel that good and that sad at the same time has got to be the blues, though they were songs about God" she says. She knew right then that she wanted to sing like that, to move others the way that she had been moved by these choir people and their songs.

Even though their time to live above the church was just a few short months, the birthing of the music in Jennifer's soul was to live forever in her. After many years of honing her skills as a singer, the influence of that church created in her a 'style' filled with soul, passion and high-octane energy that transcends through all the songs and live show performances to this day. Everyone who sees a Jennifer B Live Performance always has one thing to say, "WOW!!". Her powerful, earthy, gospel-soul, bone-shattering voice combined with her beautiful persona of Peace, Love and Happiness to all people, shines through whether you meet her on stage or in person. (*See below what her fellow musicians say

Port Arthur, Texas? Yes, Port Arthur, Texas...

After leaving home with stars in her eyes to become a rock star, Jennifer wound up in Port Arthur, Texas at age 16. It was there that she began really listening to the blues and music by the great Janis Joplin, Johnny Winter and artists that hailed from that area.

Her first blues-rock band was called Sensat Blue and comprised of guitarist and Founder, David Sensat. Jennifer met the band at an open mic jam at a strip center bar in Beaumont. She sat in with them one night and the next night, they asked me to join their band. Sensat Blue had a residency 4 nights a week at a club in Port Arthur called Mickey's Bar. It was there that Jennifer began to hone her skills by playing night after night. Learning songs that really made you feel from your soul.

One night of their residency at Mickey's Bar, only the second night that she had played with the band, a lady had walked up to Jennifer just as they had finished the show. Her name was Jan and she had been the singer in the band before Jennifer had joined. "This lady looked me right in the eyes, and boldly and matter-of-factly sated that I did not know that first thing about the blues. She told me to go home and flood my music player with the greats that were our foundation of blues music and rock, artists like Bessie Smith, Otis Redding, Albert King, Freddie King (ALL Three Kings). I was outraged at the time but looking into myself within days after it sunk in what she had said, she was Absolutely

correct. I did not know a thing about the blues and rock & roll. It was an easy solution. I began listening to Everything that I had not heard yet!." Says Jennifer with a large smile, realizing what that moment had to offer her by seeing what was needed to become who she wanted to be with her talents. All the music that she allowed to flow into her repertoire shaped her own unique sound, with influences from many different styles and genres.

Sensat Blue began to get tight and made the decision to move to Austin, Texas. The blues had become alive in Jennifer and in 1989, the City of Austin was buzzing with excitement. The band rented a house in Copeland, Texas and began practicing night and day for several months. Then, the thing happened that you hear about. That thing was the band got their first shows and within just three months, had broken up. "We literally spent more time practicing in our rehearsal space for months than we did when we started playing out. That's how it happens sometime."

Where Jennifer is now is the best place to be. After many years of playing across the Nation of the United States, still calling Austin, Texas home, Jennifer and the band have never been more Excited to be a band! "It's a Great place to be!". And that place is filled with joy for the music and compassion for the masses and the way that that is beautifully fused together is with a gathering of music-centered fun and fellowship.

You can catch the band any night somewhere.