

AYME LOREN COVER BAND



(Pictured L to R: Mike Washington, Mark Bain, Ayme Loren, Joey Santoro)

AYME LOREN (Lead Vocals / Songwriter)

"I refuse to just be a singer up on a stage", Ayme says, "I aim to connect with my audiences. It's about moving people." Ayme won over the crowd of 15,000+ and impressed guest celebrities Jon Secada and Meredith Brooks when she won Y-100's Big Break Contest and garnered a demo deal with world-renowned producer, Emilio Estefan. Born and raised in Miami to a Cuban father and an American-born actress/director mother, Ayme became immersed in musical theatre at the age of three, following in her mother's footsteps. Her musical background and experience has allowed her to develop amazing versatility, giving her the opportunity to perform many genres including pop, rock, Latin, R&B, folk, country, jazz, musical theatre, and opera. Ayme graduated with a degree in musical theatre from New World School of the Arts and attended Florida State University's music program. She has received awards for outstanding achievement in both acting and singing. She is also an experienced voice-over talent, and has been hired for DISNEY and NBC/Universal projects, among others.

In July 2011, ShareTheMic and The U.S. Embassy of Cairo awarded Ayme with a tour of Egypt. This opportunity was based on Ayme's talent as a gifted musical performer along with her combined talents as a teacher and advocate for social causes like Rett Syndrome and other chronic children's illnesses here in the U.S. The tour included two major concerts with top popular Egyptian bands, Cairokee and Ressala, along with TV, Media, and Radio appearances while speaking at workshops, schools, and orphanages to "share the mic" with Egypt and promote cross cultural collaboration.

MARK BAIN (Drums / Songwriter)

The allure of drumming began for Mark while in kindergarten a babysitter let him play on her friend's drum set. While in high school, Mark was accepted as a student by Alan Dawson. While studying with Alan for two years, Mark also began studying with Berklee College of Music graduate, Ross Adams, a guitarist and arranger, who taught Berklee-level jazz/rock/fusion ensemble courses in Brookline, Massachusetts. After high school, Mark studied with drummer and Berklee professor Tommy Campbell.

Living in Boston exposed Mark at a young age to an enormous amount of music and musicians, for which to this day he is forever grateful. Influences included great classic rock, R&B and funk bands such as Led Zeppelin, The Beatles, Stones, Bowie, Deep Purple, Parliament, Stevie Wonder, Earth Wind and Fire, Sly and the Family Stone, Ohio Players as well as the burgeoning 80s bands from New Wave, to Punk and Pop. Local ska bands, which still reign strong in Boston today, were also an inspiration.

With a focus on working with original projects, Mark also began to perform in cover bands by the age of 16, in genres ranging from fusion funk to punk pop. By the end of high school, Mark joined the legendary New Wave band, Third Rail, with lead singer Richard Nolan, which had been receiving extensive local recognition and airplay on WBCN Boston, among other radio stations. While in Third Rail, Mark also performed with jazz tap dancer legend, Leon Collins, who originally choreographed Dizzy Gillespie's "A Night in Tunisia" as well as "Flight of the Bumble-Bee" for a piano solo by Rimskij-Korsakov. Writing music, another passion of Mark's, developed in 1998 and has continued ever since. "Having been exposed and studied the many different styles of music as I have been, I categorize myself primarily as a driving "groove" orientated drummer. I like recording and working with many different styles of artists," Mark says.

MIKE WASHINGTON (Bass guitar / Background vocals)

Mike Washington is a seasoned performer who has worked with many acts, including Sly, Slick and Wicked as bass player and musical director. Two years with the O' Jays as a bass player and musical director, Sly Stone as bass player and co-lead vocalist, James Brown as bass player, Vince Neil as bass player and background vocalist. Michael has also played with John Oats, Gary U. S. Bonds, Extreme, Billy Squire and many more artists.

Michael was also featured artist and musical director for Stan Wayne's Heart and Soul, a casino styled show group based in Biloxi, MS. Michael also put his own band together, Phantasy. Phantasy was formed in Mike's hometown, Cleveland, Ohio, and soon became a local phenomenon. After working the road for a year, Phantasy signed a contract with the United States Air Force. For two years, Phantasy toured Air Force bases all over the country, entertaining thousands upon thousands of service men and women. Mike and Phantasy finally settled in Fort Lauderdale and quickly became number one band in South Florida. After a five year run, Michael became one of the founding members of Stark Naked.

Michael prides himself on his love of all styles of music and a vast knowledge of songs that he has memorized. Mike's favorite saying is "LIVE YOUR DREAMS." And that is exactly what he has been doing!

JOEY "Hey" SANTORO (Guitarist / Singer / Songwriter)

Born and raised on the Jersey Shore, Joey started teaching himself guitar at about age 9 and wrote his first original song at age 11. He studied and learned to play bass guitar, drums and piano as well. His influences include *Billy Joel, Rush, Van Halen, Earth Wind & Fire, the Bee Gees and Stevie Wonder.*

With a strong interest in original music, Joey started recording and midi-sequencing his own, and others songs using reel-to-reel recording devices while moving up to professional digital engineering. Joey's original songs were featured five times on Florida radio WSHE's "*Local Shot*".

Joey studied *music theory, acoustics* and *voice* at Broward College and Florida Atlantic University. Over the years he's performed with South Florida groups such as: *Mystique, Cheeks, Leo Casino & the Florida Players, Spank* and *Cool Breeze* - as well as continuing studio recording projects. In 2004, he performed with *the Johnny O* band at the Seminole Hard Rock Casino's Grand Opening where Joey was featured on NBC's news-cast highlights. He spent years performing on Carnival and Caribbean Cruise lines in 2, 3 and 4-piece ensembles all in a headline/front-man capacity. Joey has performed throughout the Caribbean in such places as Jamaica, Cancun, St. Thomas, St. Croix, Puerto Rico and the Cayman Islands. He was also lead guitarist on two national tours for the 60s/70s vocal group *The Coasters*.

Joey is a diverse musician who enjoys immersing himself in new challenging projects to continue to expand his musicality. His styles include Rock, Funk, R&B, Dance, Country, Blues, Standards, Jazz and Reggae to name a few.