



Way ahead of her time, Alice Stuart blazed the trail for women in rock and roll as one of the only females in the country to write her own music, front a male band, and play lead guitar on national and international circuits. Blues Hall of Fame inductee, Dick Waterman, once remarked, "There would be no Bonnie Raitt without Alice Stuart."

Alice spent the mid 1960's and 70's, one of the most creative musical periods of the century, making music with some of the greatest artists of that time. She toured the US and Europe with her band Snake and as tour support for Van Morrison. The list of artists she played with in that period of time is an awesome one. They include Michael Bloomfield, Jerry Garcia, John Prine, Albert King, Asleep at the Wheel, Richard Greene, Elvin Bishop, Sonny Terry, Tower of Power & Commander Cody. During this period, Alice also appeared on The Dick Cavett Show, with George Carlin as guest host, and won rave reviews from Billboard, Guitar Player, and Rolling Stone magazines for her recordings and performances.



Alice began performing professionally in Seattle during the early 60's. In 1964, Alice was introduced to California audiences at the Berkeley Folk Festival, then the biggest festival on the West Coast. There she met and subsequently toured and performed with many artists like Joan Baez, Doc Watson, Jack Elliott, Phil Ochs, Rosalie Sorrells, Mississippi John Hurt & Jerry Ricks. In the next few years, she also met and played with blues greats Lightnin' Hopkins, Jesse Fuller, Albert King and The Chambers Brothers. In 1965, Alice joined forces with Frank Zappa during the formation of the Mothers of Invention. Her LPs on Arhoolie (1964) and Fantasy Records (1970 and 1972) are landmark recordings. One of her songs, "I Ruined Your Life" from her 2002 Burnside release **Can't Find No Heaven** was part of the soundtrack for the film "The Station Agent" (Miramax, 2003) Her songs have been recorded by many other artists, some of whom are Jackie DeShannon, Irma Thomas, Jimmy Rabbit and the late Kate Wolf.

In 1970 after recording **Fulltime Woman** for Fantasy Records, Alice formed her first all electric band, "Snake," which included Bob Jones (We Five, Southern Comfort), and Karl Sevareid (Robert Cray). They played many noteworthy venues (Winterland, The Fillmore, Golden Gate Park Concerts) in the Bay Area in the 4 years, plus 2 successful European tours. In 1972 they recorded **"Believing"** for Fantasy Records.

When listening to Alice Stuart today, her broad range of experience both vocally and instrumentally is obvious. After her extended hiatus in the 1980s to raise her family, she returned to recording and performing in 1996. Her first release after returning to music, was "Really Good," a joint effort with bass player, singer and songwriter, Prune Rooney. 1999's "Crazy With the Blues," followed and won rave reviews.

"Can't Find No Heaven," was released on the Portland, Oregon label, Burnside Records, in 2002 and was nominated for both a Grammy and a Handy Award in 2003. This CD was chosen as "Best NW CD" by the Washington Blues Society in 2004. She has won multiple awards for her songwriting. She and the Formerlys were chosen by the Seattle Weekly readers at Seattle's Best Blues Band in 2004 & 2006. In 2005, Alice was given the award for "Seattle's Best Guitarist." She has worked as a studio musician on many albums and has been featured on many compilations, the latest being a Byrds Tribute album called **Timeless Flyte** and 2 tracks on "**Blues Guitar Women**" released in October 2005 by Ruf Records.

In December 2005, she and her band, The Formerlys, released their live double CD "Live at the Triple Door." Their new release (June 2007) "Freedom", was recorded in Memphis, TN at famed Ardent Studios. Produced by Jim Gaines and engineered by John Hampton, it boasts 11 original songs and 2 covers. The band is in top form here and the music captures more than ever Alice's musical essence. From the bluesy title track to the rocker "Highway Blues", and from the jazzy instrumental to the highly personal "I've Got Something For You", Stuart brings her fresh soulful vocals and dynamically skillful guitar work to fans worldwide.

SonicBids Electronic Press Kit is available at www.sonicbids.com/alicestuarttheformerlys

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