

## **Darlene Ketchum:**

Darlene started singing solos in church at the age of 3, and later found her musical passion in the soul, gospel, funk, and jazz music of the 1970's. The vocal freedom of soul, combined with the rich chords and funky laid-back groove, continue to inspire her songs today. In addition to being an **experienced singer**, Darlene is a **songwriter, arranger, choral & musical director, keyboard accompanist** and **educator**.

She performs and collaborates with a variety of artists, singing select covers, jazz standards, gospel, soul/R&B, funk, and her original tunes. She has performed at the Vancouver Jazz Festival, the Jazz Cellar, as well as the Chan Centre and has sung with the legendary **Leon Bibb**. The **Darlene Ketchum Quartet** has toured the Kootenays and the Okanagan for the past three summers as well as performing at various events around the Vancouver area.

Darlene is the choral director, a composer/arranger and soloist for the **Marcus Mosely Chorale** (MMC) ([www.themarcusmoselychorale.ca](http://www.themarcusmoselychorale.ca)), working as a team with **Marcus Mosely and Bill Sample**. As MMC choral director, she has worked with **Jim Byrnes, Eric Bibb, Jane Mortifee, Blu Mankuma, David Steele**, the **UBC Choral Union and Singers, City Soul (Brian Tate)** and the **Sojourners**. She was assistant musical director for the 2016 **Gotta Sing Gotta Dance**, production and she has done session work as a conductor and vocalist at various recording studios around Vancouver (for **Boulevard** at the Warehouse, for **the Wild!** at the Armoury, for **Jody Quine** at Afterlife, for **Carolyn Arends** at White Water, etc).

Darlene and Bill Sample have recently become a **co-writing team** and are currently working on a recording project of their original jazz, soul/R&B and Adult Contemporary songs ([www.ketchumandsample.com](http://www.ketchumandsample.com)). They perform together as a duo and with a full band.

Darlene was one of 100 featured artists in the *We Make Stuff* book, published in 2012, and released her first solo CD, **Soul Connections (Extended Edition)**, in October 2014. Her Christmas song, **Joy! Joy to the World**, was nominated for the 2013 Word Guild Best Lyrics Award. Her song, **I Will Not Be Shaken**, was nominated for *Urban Song of the Year* by the 2014 Gospel Music Association of Canada – Covenant Awards.

As a music educator, Darlene designed and directed the music programs and curriculum for the Institute of Music Ministry (IMM) at Pacific Life Bible College from 2003 to 2014. She now teaches college-level Music Theory, Music Charting/Arranging and Song Writing. In addition, Marcus Mosely, Bill Sample and Darlene have created curriculum and are teaching **Gospel-style singing workshops**. Darlene has organized and moderated a number of music events, including artist seminars and training, retreats, and concerts. She was part of a team that brought in performing artists for the Vancouver 2010 Olympics, organizing concerts in venues across the city.

Darlene loves to connect with, encourage, inspire and empower others whether it is through singing, teaching, mentoring or just chatting about life over a cup of dark coffee...or ice cream!