

## Artist Spotlight

## Created to Sing, Musical Artist Wendy Renee



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Vocal artist Wendy Renee can be found performing throughout Southwest Florida.



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Wendy Renee, singer, songwriter and recording artist, loves the power of music.

By Meghan Easterly  
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**Bonita Springs** – Musical artist Wendy Renee was created to sing. She gathered song into her lungs at age 7 and has been letting it flow ever since.

“Music has been in me since day one and I was crazy enough to pursue it,” the singer songwriter says.

As a child she put together musical groups and arranged talent shows in her Minneapolis neighborhood and at school. As her musical abilities strengthened throughout high school, she knew that music was her calling in life.

“Minneapolis is a very rich city as far as the arts go and has an incredible

music scene,” Renee says. “That’s when Prince was a huge deal.”

Renee tried out for the movie *Purple Rain* and was cast as an extra. From there she talked to the producer, made connections and began her recording career writing and producing music.

“I sang in a variety of bands, and when auditions came for the musical production of *Beehive*, that got me into musical theater,” Renee said. “I did that for a number of years.”

She also added Christian music into her repertoire and became the worship leader at a prominent church in Minneapolis. Eventually life led her to Southwest Florida. Six years ago she traded snow for sunshine and has made her home here. Now the artist can be found singing, recording and developing her talent throughout the area.

The artist loves the great female singers of the 20th, and now 21st, centuries. Fans can listen to her perform songs from great vocalists like Aretha Franklin, Etta James, Adele, Nora Jones and Tina Turner.

On Sunday mornings she can be found leading the praise and worship at The Springs worship service in Riverside Park in Bonita Springs. Other nights of the week fans follow her to Café Luna on 5th Avenue, Handsome Harry’s on Third Street and at private country clubs throughout Southwest Florida. Sometimes she is solo, other times she sings as a duo with musician Bruce Inman. Her busy schedule is displayed on her website at [www.wendyreneeandco.com](http://www.wendyreneeandco.com) along with samples of

her music, CDs and information about her.

“When I perform as solo, I think at least with the clubs, I have an opportunity to do current music and I love that I can stay current,” Renee says. “I still do the songs that are standards, Motown and jazz, but I can do Beyonce and Lady Gaga and Katy Perry.”

*Six years ago she traded snow for sunshine and has made her home here.*

“Then I love worship leading because it’s totally different,” Renee says. “It’s more helping people to connect more personally.”

“I perform at an assisted living facility, and I hear people comment that a song brought them back to a certain time in their life,” Renee says. “I get to see that transformation. If they lost their spouse, I play their song, and I can feel that energy.”

Currently Renee is spending a lot of time in the studio writing and recording music. She has three CDs coming out. One is based on a one-woman show she is producing that is called *At Last* and features songs from the great ladies of soul. A second album is her original music and a third is a Christian album. She is also learning to play the piano to expand her musical skills.

“I have lots of energy and just love to enjoy life and enjoy music,” Renee says. “It’s what I was created to do so I have such joy when I’m doing it. I think that comes across.”





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