

Ann Nesby

Ann Nesby, the powerhouse vocalist, songwriter, and two-time Grammy winner, is making a triumphant return to the music scene with her new single "My Man." Written and produced by RL (of the R&B group Next), the track is a full-circle moment in Nesby's illustrious career. Beyond serving as her first release since 2014's *Living My Life*, the single revisits her connection to RL, whom she vocal coached along with the group Next's before their breakout success in the late 1990s.

Known for her soul-stirring voice and genre-defying artistry, Nesby's career is marked by groundbreaking achievements. She rose to prominence as the lead vocalist for the Sounds of Blackness, whose Grammy-winning hits "Optimistic" and "Testify" became cultural touchstones. Under the mentorship of Jimmy Jam & Terry Lewis, Nesby's voice and songwriting helped elevate the group to global acclaim, performing at the FIFA World Cup and touring with Luther Vandross.

Her songwriting talents flourished as she penned iconic hits for legends like Patti LaBelle ("The Right Kinda Lover," "Someone Like You") and Gladys Knight ("Home Alone"). These successes set the stage for her critically acclaimed 1996 solo debut *I'm Here for You*, which blended Gospel, R&B, and Dance and stayed on R&B charts for over a year.

Throughout her career, Nesby collaborated with luminaries such as Sting on the *Demolition Man* soundtrack and made her mark in film with *The Fighting Temptations* (2003), where she starred as Aunt Sally Walker alongside Beyoncé and Cuba Gooding Jr. The film's Grammy-nominated soundtrack, including Nesby's duet with Shirley Caesar (The Stone), reinforced her ability to merge music and storytelling.

Her early affiliation with Tyler Perry in his first play *I Know I've Been Changed* became a launchpad for her successful acting career. Nesby later starred in David E. Talbert's *What My Husband Doesn't Know* and delivered standout performances in TV series such as *Queen Sugar* (OWN), *Atlanta* (FX), and *The Ms. Pat Show* (BET). From 2021 to 2023, she brought audiences to their feet as Gran Georgeanna in the national tour of *Tina: The Tina Turner Musical*.

On the solo music front, Nesby continued to impress with projects like *Make Me Better* (2003), earning a Grammy nomination, and *This Is Love* (2007), featuring the Grammy-nominated single "I Apologize." Her Soulful Christmas album (2009) included the holiday hit "Soul Holiday," famously featured in the film *Precious*. With *The Lula Lee Project* (2009), she explored an edgier blend of Gospel and R&B, solidifying her reputation as a genre-bending trailblazer.

Nesby's latest single, "My Man," celebrates the beauty of love and her personal devotion to her husband and longtime manager, Tim Lee, who is also the head of Laborforce Management and co-head of Nesby's label, It's Time Child Records. The song continues a narrative of love and relationships that Nesby has explored throughout her solo career—from the heartbreak of leaving the wrong one in "I'm Still Wearing Your Name" to the joy of finding the right one in "Put It On Paper."

Reflecting on the journey, Nesby shares, "My Man is a celebration of love in its truest form. It's about commitment, devotion, and the beauty of a love that grows stronger over time. With this song, I honor my husband and the incredible bond we share while staying true to the themes of love that have always inspired my music."

Beyond music, Nesby's excellence extends to community leadership. As an honorary member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated—a historic service organization with over 125,000 members—she reflects the values of empowerment and service that resonate with her career and life's work.

As Randy Jackson famously said, she's "one of the best singers in the known world." With "My Man," Nesby reasserts her position as one of the music industry's most enduring and versatile artists. The single signals the beginning of an exciting new chapter for a vocal powerhouse whose artistry continues to transcend boundaries and inspire generations.



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