

## **DERRICK WILLIAMS BIOGRAPHY**

**VOCALIST / PIANIST / SONGWRITER / PRODUCER / TV HOST / MUSICAL THEATRE**

### **The Music Man**

Meet Florida's Premier Entertainer, DERRICK WILLIAMS, a confident yet humble talent blessed with a unique expression of his own! He is a Vocalist, Pianist, Songwriter, TV Host, Music Producer, Praise and Worship Leader and Musical phenomenon anointed with an extraordinary style of his own. His music is original with a compilation of Contemporary and Traditional sounds fused with Smooth Jazz, Gospel, Rhythm & Blues, Funk, and Dance. His captivating one man solo act has coined him the name "The Music Man" with his phenomenal stage presence – bringing back that "old time" quality entertainment. Derrick's musical creativity is captured through his harmonies and songwriting through the stylings of additional vocalist and band pieces with his duo, trio, and full band stage show.



### **"The Gospel Voice"**

Williams' style and captivating stage performances are showcased weekly as the Host of The Gospel Voice, a 30 minute music show, airing nationally every Saturday at 12:30 Am (EST), 11:30PM (CST), & 9:30PM (PST) on The Christian Television Network (CTN). The show features a live stage band with Derrick on the Grand Piano and keyboards. Williams also serves as the show's Creative and Musical Director, as well as, Co-Executive Producer. Williams and his TV Band, The Gospel Voice Band, offer a unique original sound with an extraordinary fusion of Gospel, Jazz, Funk, Rhythm & Blue, & Rock... Their high energy stage show is captivating to the eye with soul filled sounds that please the ear. The Gospel Voice is produced by The Christian Television Network Headquarters and celebrates nine successful years on air. For more info visit [www.thegospelvoicetvshow.com](http://www.thegospelvoicetvshow.com)

### **Dinner & Praise Show**

The success of the *The Gospel Voice* TV Show has warranted a live performance venue for fans, believers, and visiting patrons to enjoy an evening of Dinner & Praise with Derrick Williams and The Gospel Voice Band. Fans wanted to see live what they watch on the show every week. The concept of *Sunday's Soulful Supper*, a new and exciting sophisticated Gospel dinner show experience was born. Derlie Records, Williams recording label, and the Gospel Voice Ministries paired to create an ingredient of fine dining, contemporary American cuisine, and quality Gospel / Christian entertainment. The concept was to bring back the dinner show feel with quality entertainment. The success of the dinner show has brought patrons in from all of The Tampa Bay area and the opportunity to take the dinner show to other venues nationally. To learn more visit [www.thegospelvoicetvshow.com](http://www.thegospelvoicetvshow.com).

## **Musical Gifts**

Williams' musical gifts were discovered at the age of five. Although he never studied music professionally, at the age of eight, he began singing and playing the piano for a Sunday School Service. His inspiring Gospel roots propelled him to excel in music via high school choirs—thus winning multiple talent contests and awards during his adolescent years. His first professional gig was in Bradenton, Florida playing keyboards and singing lead vocals with a five-piece band to 50s and 60's tunes. "The Jury," an appropriate name for a band which appeared nightly at the Judges' Chambers gave Derrick the foundation he needed to become one of Florida's most versatile entertainers. In an effort to increase his versatility, he began playing Smooth and Contemporary Jazz music around the Tampa Bay Area. If you had to compare him to an industry talent—justice could only be served by paralleling him with some of the industries most dominate forces!

## **Music Label**

In an effort to reach a larger fan base, Williams founded Derlie Records, Inc. (pronounced "Deer-Lee"), an independent recording label company. Florida. As Chairman and CEO, Williams heads the label's Creative Services Department, creating an avenue to independently showcase his song writing and producing skills—while maintaining his creative control. The goal for his record company, is to sign with a larger independent or major record label enabling his music to be marketed and distributed — reaching a larger market and audience sometimes difficult to reach with a smaller independent label. Williams continues to record music on his label, as well as, touring and performing Gospel and Jazz music to support sales of his CDs. His current CD title Most Requested Vol. I is a compilation of Jazz and Gospel live performance tracks. His new Gospel CD is expected to be released in 2018

## **"The Rabbi"**

When not performing or recording music, Derrick can be found touring with the musical, The Rock and the Rabbi. Williams, who originated the lead role of the Rabbi, joined the cast in 98' — receiving rave reviews for his thrilling stage performances. Pam Harbaugh of the FLORIDA TODAY writes "Derrick Williams, voicing Jesus Christ, seems to carve the song out of the air around him. He has amazing control and range and delivers a powerhouse performance.". The show dramatically acquaints its audience with a very "old Story"-- about the compelling relationship between Apostle Simon / Peter, a fisherman, (The Rock) and Jesus of Nazareth (The Rabbi). The show toured with Celebrity Attractions, a national touring company based in Tulsa, Oklahoma playing to sold out crowds at prestigious venues throughout the country — affording Williams tens of thousands of fans nationwide.

Whether you're listening to his upbeat dance rhythms, melodic ballads, or inspirational Gospel music, DERRICK WILLIAMS epitomizes a new experience in sound!