



Candy Williams

Singer. Songwriter. Storyteller. Spellbinder.

Candy Williams grew up in the close-knit northeast side of Oklahoma City where music and great musicians were everywhere. Opera singers sang side by side with gospel greats, and with these influences, Candy began her schooling as a singer.

The 60's and 70's were ripe with fantastic music: the times were a' changing, and the music reflected that. Candy had begun training in opera at 13 years old, but the pull of R&B, rock, and funk music were so strong for her that she turned to more than classical music. Soon she was featured vocalist in popular bands alongside seasoned musicians who were twice her age. She learned the subtleties of musical storytelling as she included musical theater to her skills and found her place among the best choirs in the region. Her studies took a great leap when she was awarded a scholarship in voice performance to the University of Oklahoma where she studied with Carol Brice Carey. From there, Candy knew she would always sing.

Candy's vocal skills grew quickly, and she joined the Jokers Y-ilde Band during her sophomore year at OU. Jokers Y-ilde was a seriously popular party band receiving regional and national attention, and years later, they earned a place in the Oklahoma Historical Society. They experienced the highs and lows of being a successful dance band, but eventually, the lows won and the band collapsed. From this, Prelude Band was formed, and this group became more polished, more sophisticatedly funky, and extremely popular. But again, highs and lows hit, and after the murder of the bandleader, the group left OKC to begin survival and revival in Dallas, TX. Almost immediately they were playing to SRO crowds and opening for national acts, and Candy earned the title of Dallas Diva from *Buddy Magazine*. Prelude Band eventually broke up,

but the Dallas move was still profitable as she added voiceovers, on-camera commercials, and theatrical stage to her resume. However, Candy's first love was singing in a band, and that's what she has always returned to.

Fast -forward many exhilarating and challenging decades as a middle school teacher and part-time entertainer, the singer is back and renewed. The 2018 release of her CD "Open to Love" showcases her songwriting skills and presents her as warm and mature in her craft. She generously gives us her captivating personality in her in-person shows, and her energy is infused with a fire and presence that only comes from having been around a while, growing through joy and tragedy, and keeping her own honest dreams front and center.

And, Candy Williams is a performer whose time is always now.

candycwilliams.com
candysings@sbcglobal.net
214-662-1857

