

A portrait of Zia Jenaye, a young woman with long, dark, braided hair, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. She is wearing a dark, textured top. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light blue.

ZIA JENAYE

SINGER-SONGWRITER

ZIA JENAYE, A GIFTED SINGER/SONGWRITER ORIGINATING FROM THE VIBRANT SOUTHSIDE OF CHICAGO, IS A VERSATILE ARTIST WHOSE MUSIC SEAMLESSLY WEAVES TOGETHER SOULFUL R&B, HIP-HOP, AND POP ELEMENTS TO CREATE CAPTIVATING AND INSPIRING NARRATIVES. Z.J'S INNATE ARTISTRY IS EVIDENT IN HER ABILITY TO AUTHENTICALLY CONNECT WITH HER AUDIENCE, PARTICULARLY THE YOUTH, THROUGH HER MUSIC. HER PERFORMANCES, WHETHER IN AN INTIMATE SETTING OR A LARGE VENUE, ARE CONSISTENTLY ENGAGING AND PERSONAL, FOSTERING A PROFOUND CONNECTION WITH HER LISTENERS.

ZIA JENAYE'S MUSICAL REPERTOIRE ENCOMPASSES A WIDE SPECTRUM, RANGING FROM INFECTIOUS, UP-TEMPO TRACKS THAT BECKON BODY MOVEMENT TO SOUL-STIRRING BALLADS THAT EVOKE DEEP EMOTIONS. HER MUSIC SERVES AS A POIGNANT REFLECTION OF THE CHALLENGES AND VICTORIES ASSOCIATED WITH GROWING UP IN THE SOUTHSIDE OF CHICAGO. WITH RAW, HONEST LYRICS AND A VOICE THAT EXUDES SHEER BRILLIANCE, ZIA'S MUSIC GUIDES LISTENERS THROUGH THE TUMULTUOUS PATHS OF LIFE WHILE OFFERING GLIMPSES OF THE EXQUISITE VISTAS THAT LIE AHEAD.

BEYOND HER REMARKABLE MUSICAL PROWESS, ZIA JENAYE HAS GARNERED NOTABLE ACCLAIM THROUGH HER PERFORMANCES AND ACCOLADES. SHE HAS SECURED VICTORIES AT ESTEEMED EVENTS SUCH AS THE YOUR PASSION FIRST MUSIC FESTIVAL AND PITCH COMPETITION, AND HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A STANDOUT TALENT AT THE JOHN WALT FOUNDATION AND THE CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT'S TEENS IN THE PARK FEST. NOTABLY, ZIA WAS A FINALIST IN THE FIERCELY COMPETITIVE CHICAGO MADE NEXT SHOWCASE COMPETITION AND HAS BEEN FEATURED ON KORPORATES' BLACK CHICAGO BE LIKE. HER APPEARANCES AT HIGH-PROFILE EVENTS INCLUDING CHANCE THE RAPPER'S SOCIALWORKS NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM, FROM THE GO FEST, TASTE OF CHICAGO, AND LOLLAPALOOZA 2024 STAND AS TESTAMENTS TO HER EXCEPTIONAL ARTISTRY AND EXTENSIVE EXPERIENCE IN THE MUSIC INDUSTRY.

“VIA VIDEO CALL TO AN AUDIENCE OF ONE, SHE GLIDES INTO HER SONG “FEELING A WAY.” HER VOICE, LIKE A BALLET DANCER ON A FLIGHT OF STAIRS, GRACEFULLY CLIMBING AND DESCENDING SCALES. HER VOCAL PROWESS AND LYRICAL SENTIMENTS SHOWCASE A MATURITY THAT ONLY COMES WITH EXTENSIVE PRACTICE AND INTENSIVE FOCUS, BOTH OF WHICH SHE VALUES DEARLY. BUT THERE IS ANOTHER ELEMENT HERE THAT BRINGS IT ALL TOGETHER – NOT JUST TO HER VOICE, NOT JUST TO HER PERFORMANCE, BUT TO ZIA JENAYE HERSELF – HER HUMILITY.”

SOCIAL WORKS OPEN MIKE STORY