



NEWS FROM A&M RECORDS

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RITA COOLIDGE

(Biography)

Rita Coolidge was born in Nashville, Tennessee, the youngest of three girls. Because her father was a preacher she had a preacher's daughter childhood singing in church choirs beginning at the age of two, playing the piano and moving around often. At the age of 15 Rita moved with her family to Florida where she attended Florida State University and formed her own band called RC and the Moon Pies.

After leaving Florida State, Rita traveled to Memphis to sing radio spots and jingles for a Memphis firm that had also started its own record label. She signed with them, cut a record that was fairly successful and eventually moved to California.

There Rita was introduced to Delaney and Bonnie. The hit if off musically, and she ended up singing on their first album (produced by David Anderle) and touring with them three times.

Being one of the busiest back-up singers around, Rita has done session work on the albums of Dave Mason, Eric Clapton, Stephen Stills, Marc Benno and Joe Cocker, just to name a few. She was also part of the now famous Mad dogs and Englishmen tour with Leon Russell and Joe Cocker and was featured in her own solo.

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Now signed as a solo artist for A & M Records, Rita has just completed her first album produced by David Anderle. Songs on the album include Neil Young's "I Believe In You", some blues things like "Born Under a Bad Sign" and "Ain't That Peculiar". Marc Benno's "Second Story Window" and two other songs that he wrote especially for her, Steve Young's "Seven Bridges Road" and, Doerge and Weiss' "That Man Is My Weakness."

People playing behind Rita are Booker T. Jones (who also did the string and horn arrangements, Leon Russell, Marc Benno, Duck Dunn, Bobby Wornick, Ry Cooder, Stephen Stills, Jerry McGee, Clarence White, Spencer Oldham, Jim Keltner and Chris Ethridge.

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