



Deidre McCalla

An engaging performer, Deidre McCalla, has a voice that delicately conveys both strength and vulnerability, her electric blend of folk and pop has touched the hearts and minds of audiences from Maui to Maine, college coffeehouses to Carnegie Hall. Deidre McCalla has shared stages with a long list of notables that include Tracy Chapman and Sweet Honey In the Rock. Her first album was released when Deidre was nineteen and a student at Vassar College. Upon graduating Deidre hit the proverbial road and has never looked back. Deidre McCalla is the indefatigable road warrior. An African-American lesbian feminist, Deidre's words and music poignantly traverse the inner and outer landscapes of our lives, chronicling our strengths and weaknesses and celebrating the power and diversity of the human spirit. As a single mom, Deidre homeschools her son and co-founded Atlanta Family Pride, an organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families.

"...a highly distinctive voice in a crowded field of contemporary folk music."

- AUSTIN AMERICAN STATESMAN



As a founding member of the Association of Women's Music and Culture, Deidre is a black woman in a white world viewing America's strengths and weaknesses from an African American lesbian perspective.

Discography

Playing For Keeps (MaidenRock MRK 3050)
Everyday Heroes & Heroines (Olivia LF 965)
With A Little Luck (Olivia LF 953)
Winner SF Cable Car Award
Don't Doubt It (Olivia LF 939)
Nominated for three New York Music Awards
Fur Coats and Blue Jeans (Roulette SR 3012)

Major Featured Performances

Carnegie Hall, National Women's Music Festival, Asheville Belchere Festival, Michigan Women's Music Festival, Chattanooga Riverbend Festival, Vancouver Folk Festival

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Deidre McCalla

Singer * Songwriter * Guitarist

Deidre McCalla. Singer. Songwriter. Modern day troubadour. An engaging performer with a voice that delicately conveys both strength and vulnerability, Deidre's eclectic blend of folk, rock, country and pop has touched the hearts and minds of audiences from Maui to Maine, college coffeehouses to Carnegie Hall.

A preeminent performer in both folk and women's music circles, Deidre McCalla has shared stages with a long list of notables that includes Tracy Chapman, Suzanne Vega, Odetta, Cris Williamson and Sweet Honey In the Rock.

Deidre came of age in the fiery blaze of New York City's folk heyday-a time when the clubs of Greenwich Village were filled with the likes of Dylan, Baez and Ochs; a time when Motown ruled the top of the charts and the streets of America screamed with anger and civil unrest. These influences conspired to make an indelible imprint on an open and hungry young mind. Her first album, *Fur Coats and Blue Jeans*, was released when Deidre was 19 and a student at Vassar College. Upon graduating, McCalla hit the proverbial road and has never looked back. Deidre majored in jazz guitar at the Wisconsin Conservatory of Music and enjoyed a three-album, eleven-year association with Olivia Records.

With five critically acclaimed albums to her credit, including the recent MaidenRock release, *Playing For Keeps*, Deidre McCalla remains the indefatigable road warrior. An African-American lesbian feminist, Deidre's words and music traverse the inner and outer landscapes of our lives, chronicling our strengths and weaknesses and celebrating the power and diversity of the human spirit.

Deidre is a single mom. She homeschools her son and lives near Atlanta, Georgia. She is co-founder of FamilyPride of the South (formerly Atlanta FamilyPride), an organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender families.

Outside the Lines: Reflections on Race, Gender, Sexuality, Art, Parenting and Politics

In an informal classroom discussion/presentation Deidre McCalla revisits the paths she has traveled and why. Plus, what it has meant to her, "Crafting a Life Coloring Outside the Lines".

A dedicated, lifelong advocate for peace and social justice, Deidre's unique perspective as a working class, Ivy League educated, African-American, lesbian feminist, home schooling single parent by choice, self-employed, singer-songwriter, performer, businesswoman, celebrates the multidimensional nature of identity and creativity.

Deidre McCalla is a veteran mover and shaker of the women's music cultural movement and has toured nationally for many years. Deidre worked for eleven years with lesbian recording company, Olivia Records, with whom she released three critically acclaimed albums and her work has been published in *Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology*, and *The Original Coming Out Stories*. Deidre is cofounder of Atlanta FamilyPride (now known as FamilyPride of the South), an organization supporting LGBT families in the Southeast through educational programming, community resources, social activities and public advocacy. Deidre McCalla lives near Atlanta, Georgia where she raises and home schools her son.