

## Foster H Joseph

Jazz Vocalist/Composer/Pianist

Foster Hildason Joseph was born in Charlestown, Nevis. At the age of five his family moved to Antigua, native land of his parents. He grew up in a large eclectic musical family, whose spectrum ran from Rachmaninoff to Marley. Like his six siblings, Foster was tutored in the European tradition but at age thirteen, after hearing 'Kind of Blue' by the legendary Miles Davis, Foster developed an abiding love for jazz.

Endowed with the kind of liquid smooth phrasing, reminiscent of the 1940's, Foster Joseph is an evolving jazz singer. His sound is a mélange of Louis Armstrong and Nat King Cole. Foster's repertoire consists of not only the American Song Book, but some of his own compositions. His latest recorded composition '*Now You Are Mine*', reflects the style of a bygone era.

The surest test of a jazz singer is his acceptance by the skilled instrumentalist. The troubled relationship between instrumentalist and vocalist, Foster Joseph has never experienced. His innate ability to swing has always impressed the supporting cast.

The list of jazz practitioners who have graced his recordings and bandstand is impressive: Gerald Cannon, Jay Leonhart, James Genus, Sherman Irby, Greg Tardy, Marcus Printup, James Hurt, Yoron Israel, Richie Goods, Cindy Blackman Santana, Willie Jones III, and Ali Jackson are amongst the talents who've lent their skills to support Foster Joseph's artistry.

A two year sojourn to New York City (1994 thru 1995), saw Foster performed at Smalls, Birdland, Five Spot, Coplands, Sign of a Dove and Jezebel.

His upcoming EP, 'Foster [to love]' feature the talents of Gerald Cannon, Willie Jones III and James Hurt.

Foster Joseph is a welcome addition to the jazz vocal pantheon.