

## ISAAC CATES



In life there are many talented individuals whose musical gifting and expressionism appears effortless to audiences. Some are born with these gifts while others are trained to become great minstrels and psalmists. However, there are those who are exceptionally blessed to marry their natural gifting with their learned skills to become known as “masters” of their craft! Having been compared to Oscar Peterson, Dianne Warren, Thomas Whitfield and Richard Smallwood, Isaac S. Cates immerses on the music scene as an artist with an astonishing musical knowledge, skill and unparalleled creativity that places second, only to his passion for encouraging people.

Born in Kansas City, Kansas and affectionately known as a child prodigy, Isaac has always shown a great interest in music.

Isaac began studying piano at the early age of four and has been composing and arranging music for the past 17 years. He studied piano performance, writing, composition, and choral conducting at the University of Missouri-Kansas City’s world famous Conservatory of Music. While attending he started arranging spirituals, chorales and setting sacred texts to music. He has received accolades in local, state, regional and national competitions, earning him numerous awards and recognition as one of the most skilled and talented musical gifts to the world. In addition to working as a private piano and voice teacher, Isaac has served as Music Director for Andrew Lloyd Webber’s “Jesus Christ Superstar;” Minister of Music for several Kansas City congregations; adjudicator for vocal, instrumental and composition seminars and competitions.

Isaac has also traveled the United States teaching music, directing choirs and serving as a clinician and many national music seminars.

He has recorded music for the past 12 years and with those recordings, he has performed alongside many artists from all over the world, such as Kirk Franklin, Richard Smallwood, Melonie Daniels, Cyrus Chestnut, James Fortune, Donald Lawrence, Bill Gaither, Kari Jobe, Vashawn Mitchell, Mark Hayes and Trace Atkins to name a few.

Isaac has performed in Italy, Switzerland, England, Spain, and Germany playing to sold out audiences conducting and teaching hundreds of people in music workshops.

Isaac is a gifted vocalist, pianist and vocal arranger often sought after for his vocal coaching, specifically for his abilities to blend genres and utilize different vocal techniques as broad as Bel Canto to speech level singing.

His original Composition "Strong Tower" and his setting of "The Lord's Prayer" have been performed in over 17 different countries and been translated into numerous languages. Isaac has the unique ability to use his knowledge of Classical music and roots of Gospel/Soul music to create refreshingly sophisticated harmonies polyphonic rhythms and dazzling piano accompaniments that have become his trademark sound.

Isaac has recently been sought after for his original songs and compositions and has contributed music to Dexter Walker and Zion Movement, Geoffrey Golden (winner of season 7 "Sunday Best"), C. Ashley Wright (Hezekiah Walker), Christina Bell (Of Ziel) and the amazing soprano, Callie Day.